MR. ARASHI'S

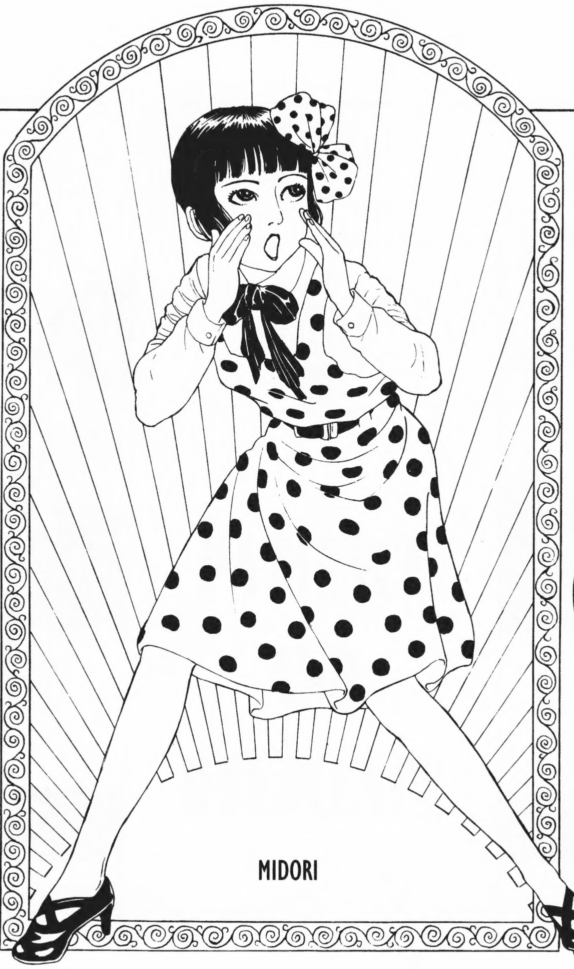
AMAZING FREAK SHOW

SUEHIRO MARUO

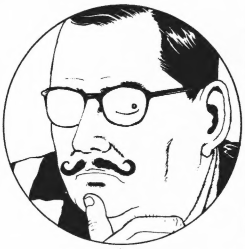
MR. ARASHI'S

AMAZING FREAK SHOW

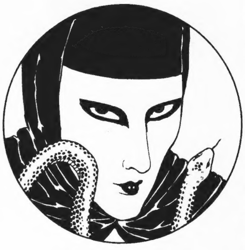
THE CAST



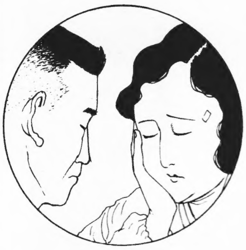
MIDORI



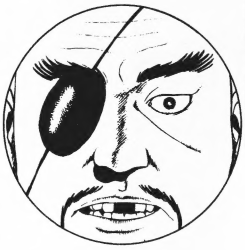
MR. ARASHI



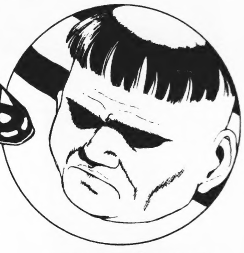
SNAKE WOMAN



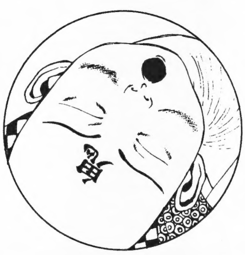
FATHER & MOTHER



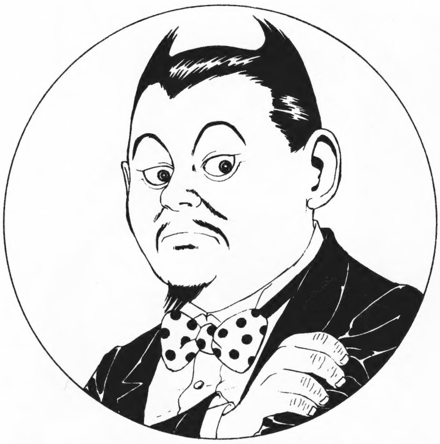
THE GIANT



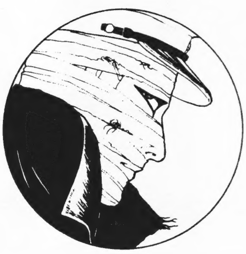
THE HUMAN WORM



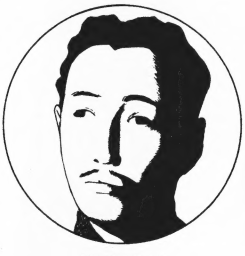
HOHICHI THE HUMAN PRETZEL



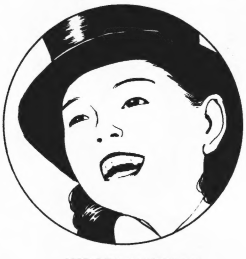
MASAMITSU THE BOTTLED WONDER



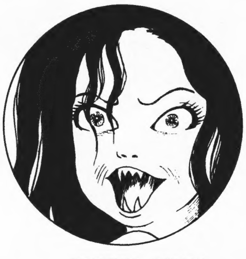
THE MUMMY MAN



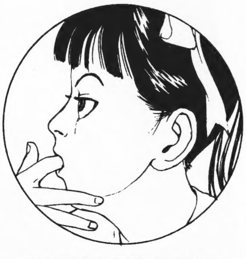
IKKA KITA[†]



HIBARI MISORA[††]



SPOTTED GIRL[†††]



KANABUN THE BOY-GIRL

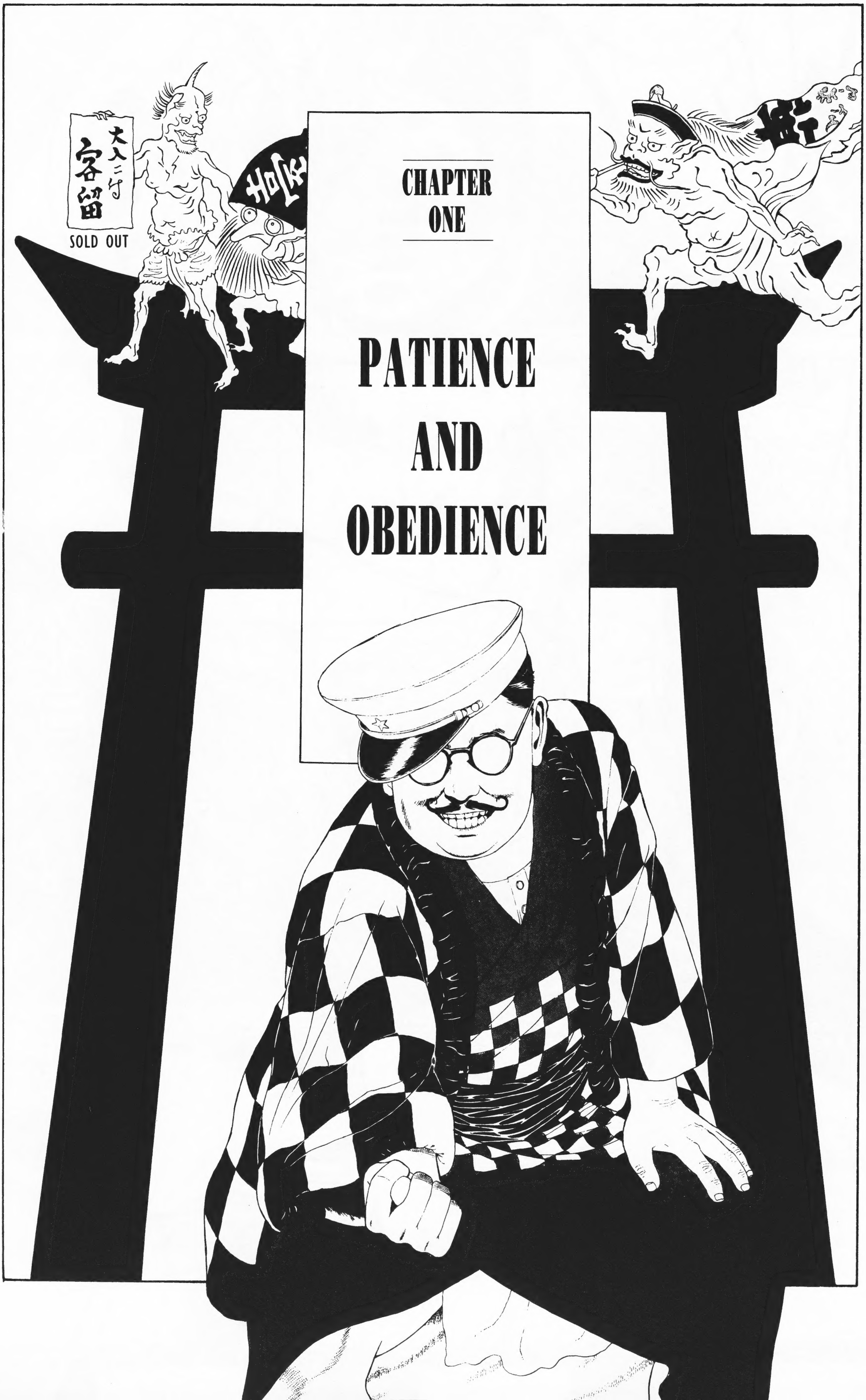
[†] 1883–1937 RADICAL NATIONALIST

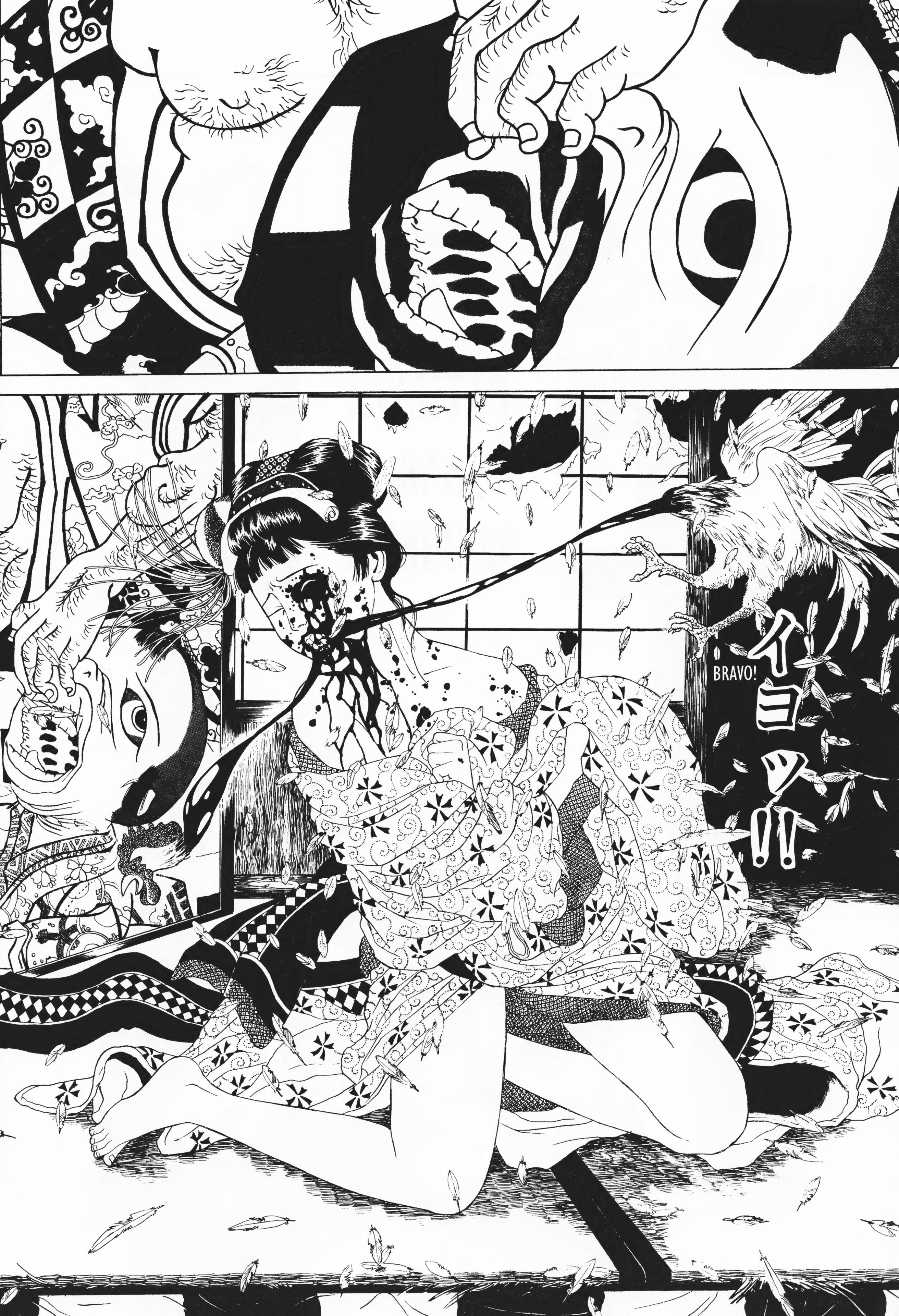
[††] POPULAR JAPANESE SINGER

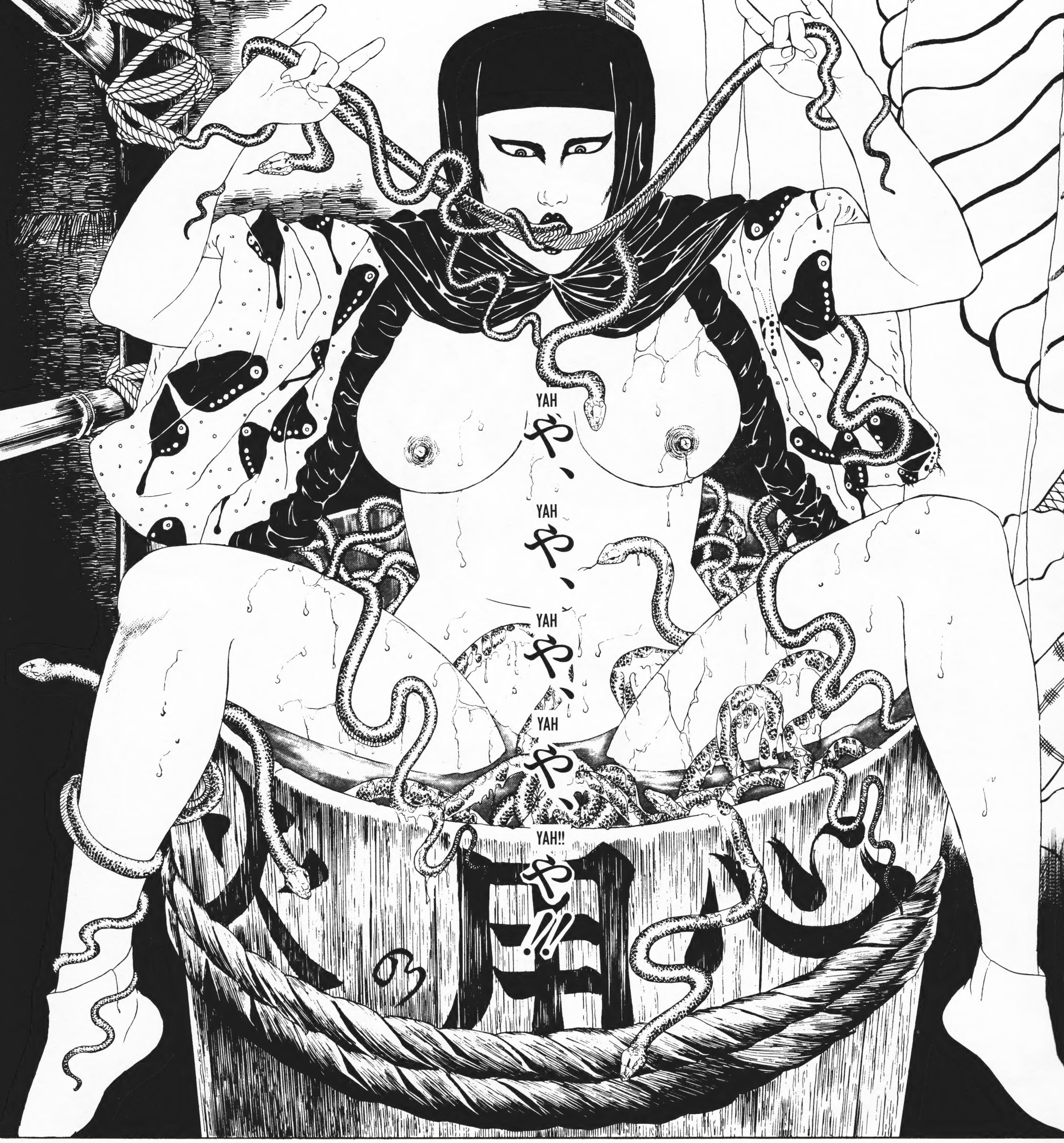
[†††] DOES NOT APPEAR IN STORY.

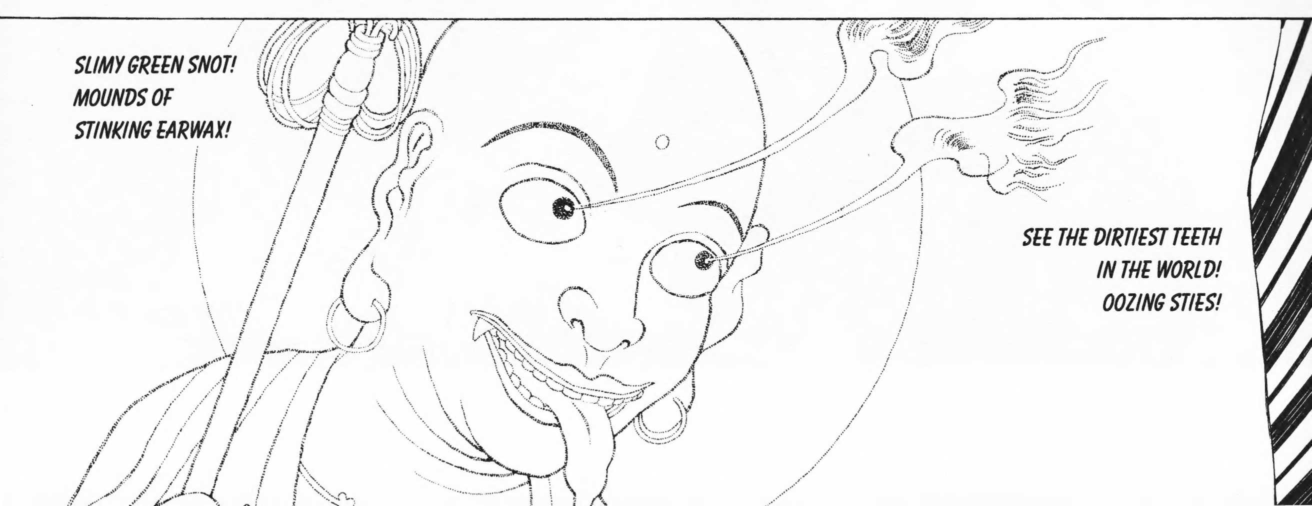
CHAPTER ONE

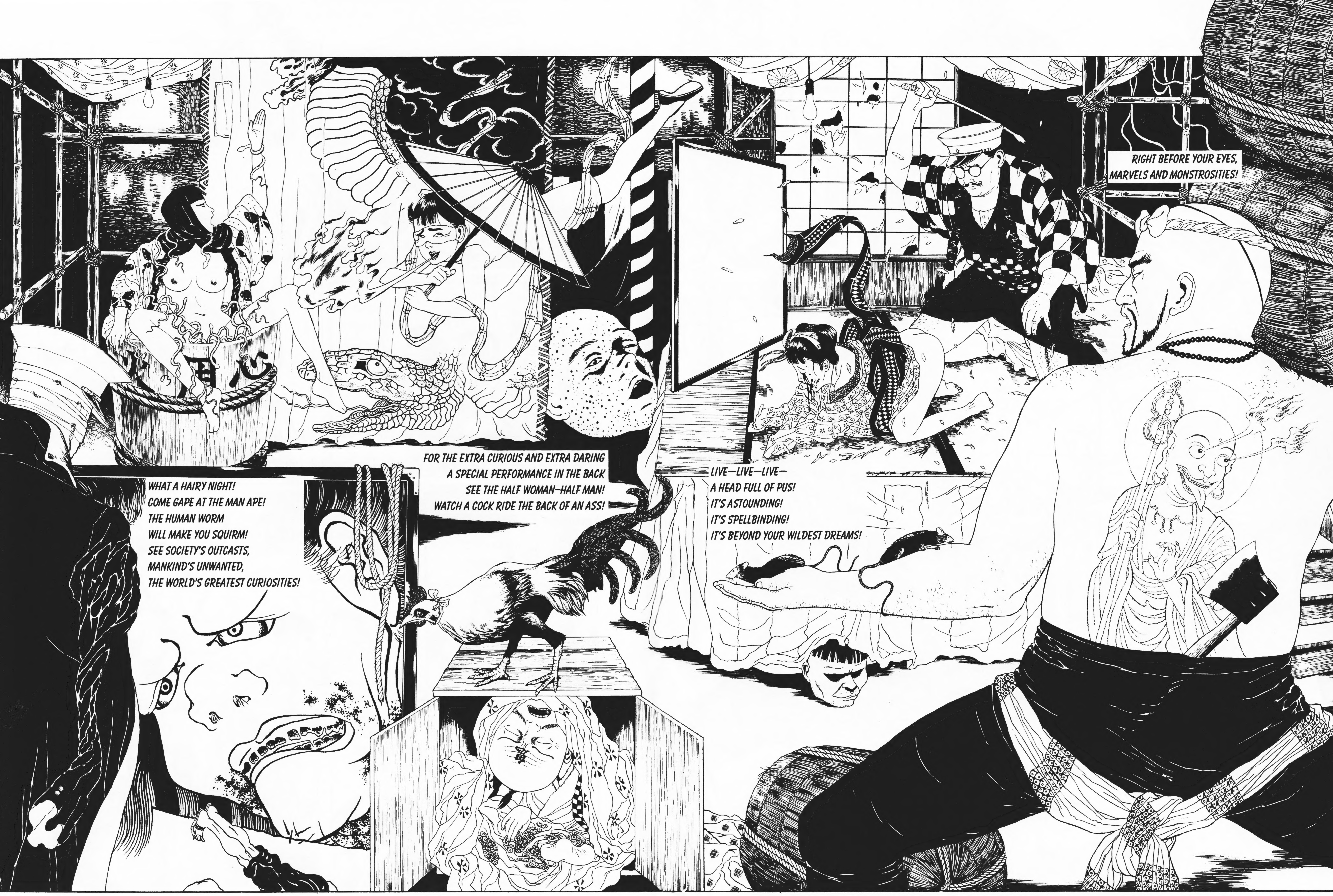
PATIENCE AND OBEDIENCE

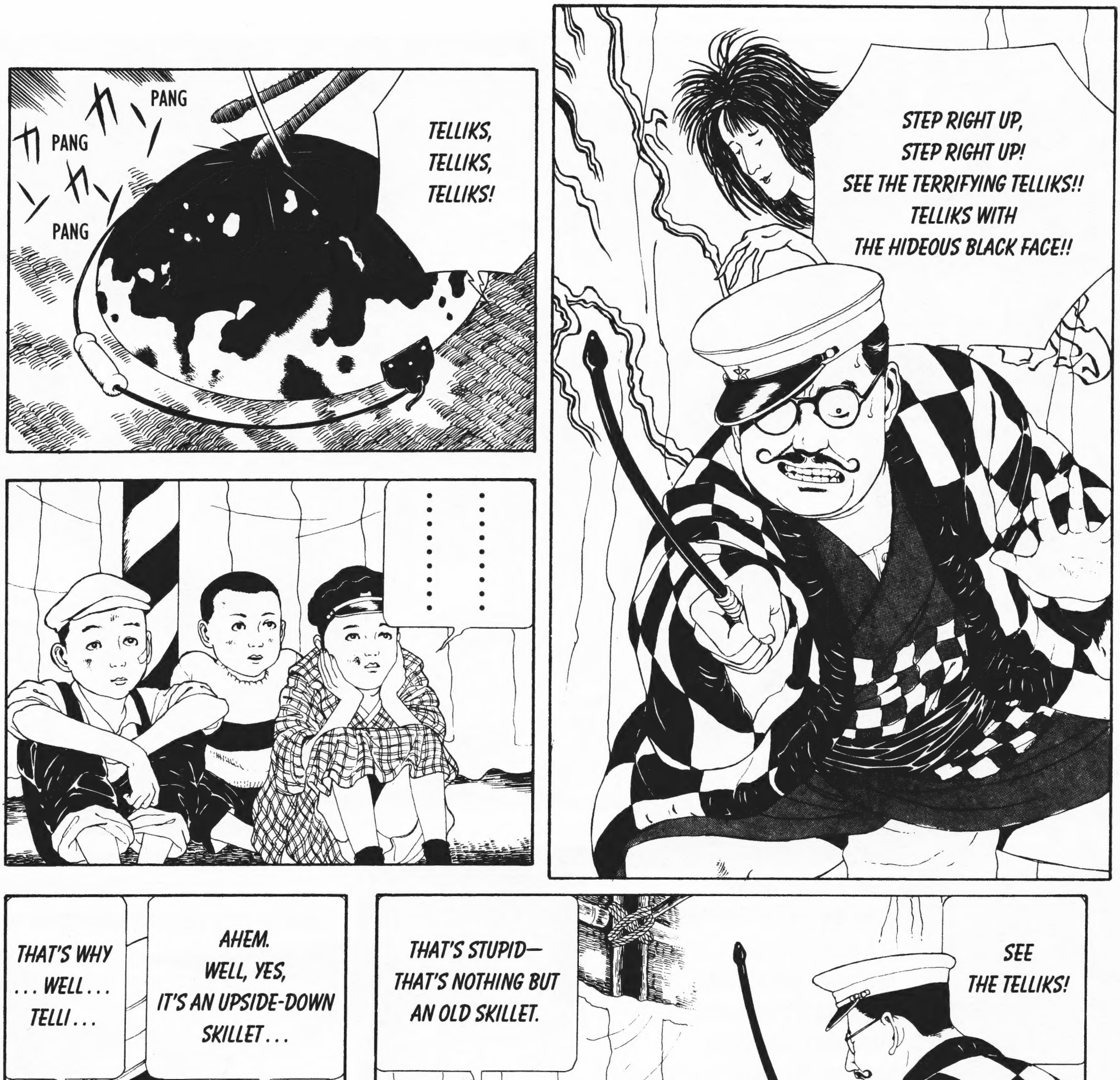

大入ニ付
客留
SOLD OUT

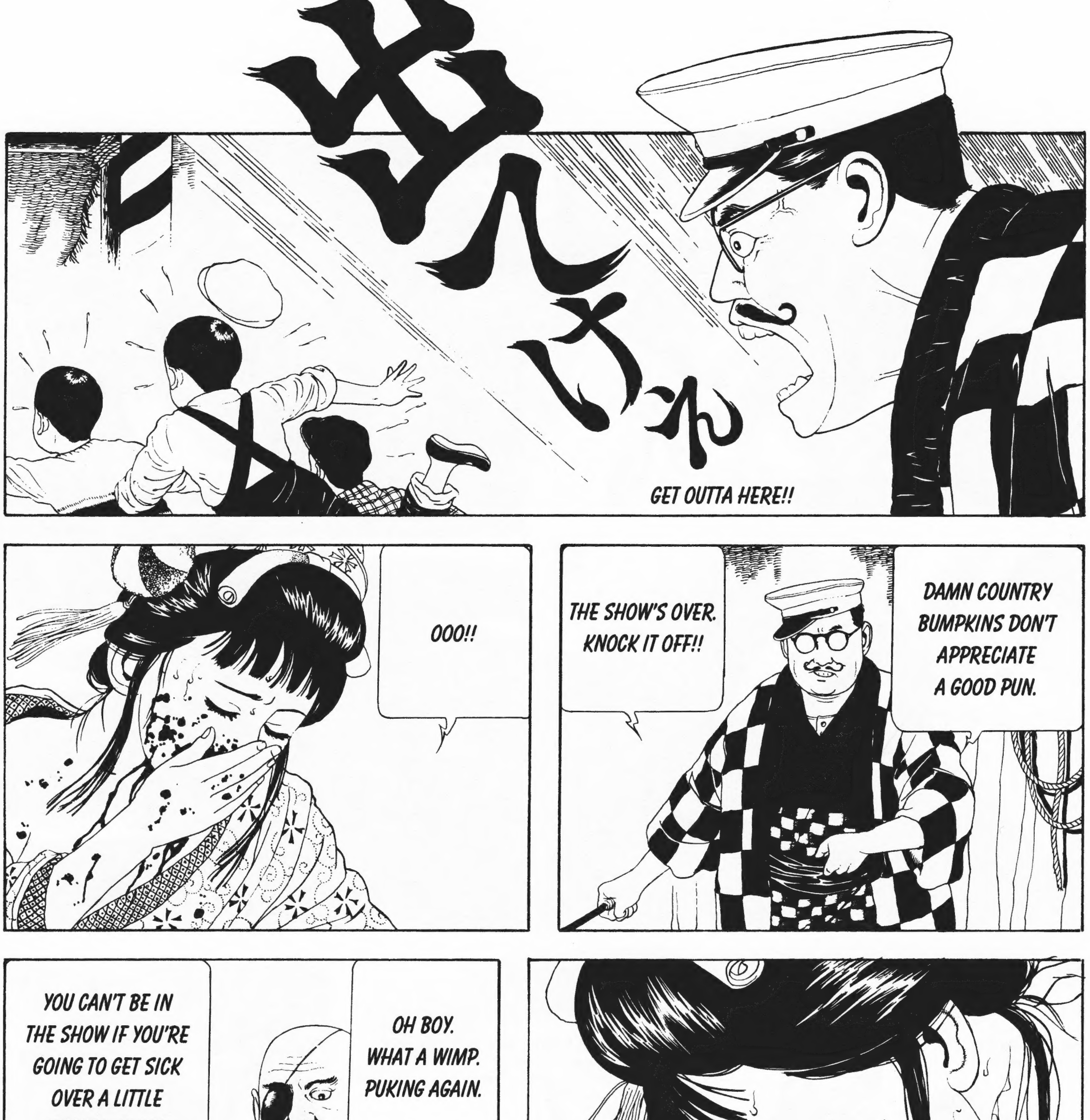

イヨッ!!
BRAVO!

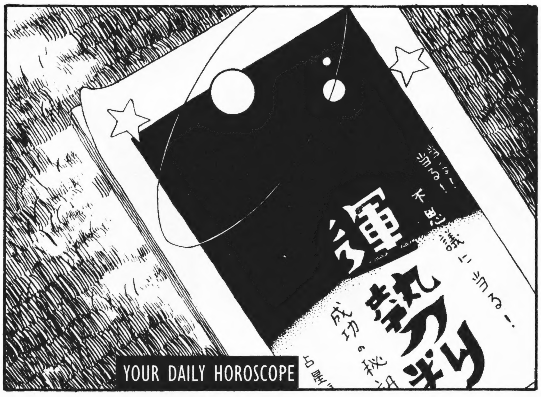

YAH
や、
YAH
や、
YAH
や、
YAH
や、
YAH!!
や!!

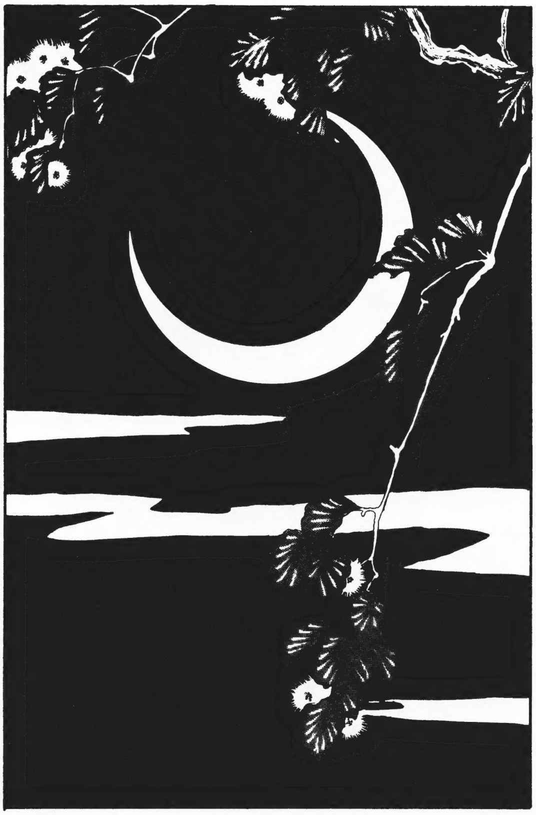

SEE THE DIRTIEST TEETH IN THE WORLD! OOZING STIES!
SLIMY GREEN SNOT! MOUNDS OF STINKING EARWAX!

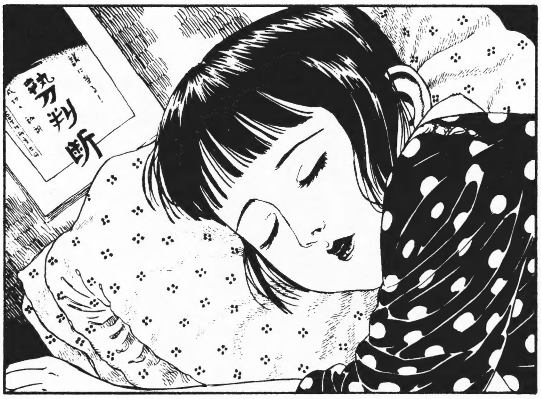

RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES,
MARVELS AND MONSTROSITIES!
LIVE—LIVE—LIVE—
A HEAD FULL OF PUS!
IT'S ASTOUNDING!
IT'S SPELLBINDING!
IT'S BEYOND YOUR WILDEST DREAMS!
FOR THE EXTRA CURIOUS AND EXTRA DARING
A SPECIAL PERFORMANCE IN THE BACK
SEE THE HALF WOMAN—HALF MAN!
WATCH A COCK RIDE THE BACK OF AN ASS!
WHAT A HAIRY NIGHT!
COME GAPE AT THE MAN APE!
THE HUMAN WORM
WILL MAKE YOU SQUIRM!
SEE SOCIETY'S OUTCASTS,
MANKIND'S UNWANTED,
THE WORLD'S GREATEST CURIOSITIES!


STEP RIGHT UP, STEP RIGHT UP! SEE THE TERRIFYING TELLIKS!! TELLIKS WITH THE HIDEOUS BLACK FACE!!
TELLIKS, TELLIKS, TELLIKS!
PANG
PANG
PANG
. . . .
SEE THE TELLIKS!
THAT'S STUPID— THAT'S NOTHING BUT AN OLD SKILLET.
AHEM. WELL, YES, IT'S AN UPSIDE-DOWN SKILLET . . .
THAT'S WHY . . . WELL . . . TELLI . . .
AND NOW— A WOODCHUCK!!
NYA, I GET IT. SOMEBODY CHUCKED UP ON THAT PIECE OF WOOD.
DAMN BRATS!! HEY, DID YOU LITTLE STINKERS PAY FOR THE SHOW?
OF COURSE NOT.


出てけぇ
GET OUTTA HERE!!
DAMN COUNTRY BUMPKINS DON'T APPRECIATE A GOOD PUN.
THE SHOW'S OVER. KNOCK IT OFF!!
OOO!!
OH BOY. WHAT A WIMP. PUKING AGAIN.
YOU CAN'T BE IN THE SHOW IF YOU'RE GOING TO GET SICK OVER A LITTLE CHICKEN BLOOD.
おえっ
OO-UH
えっ
UH
えっ
UH

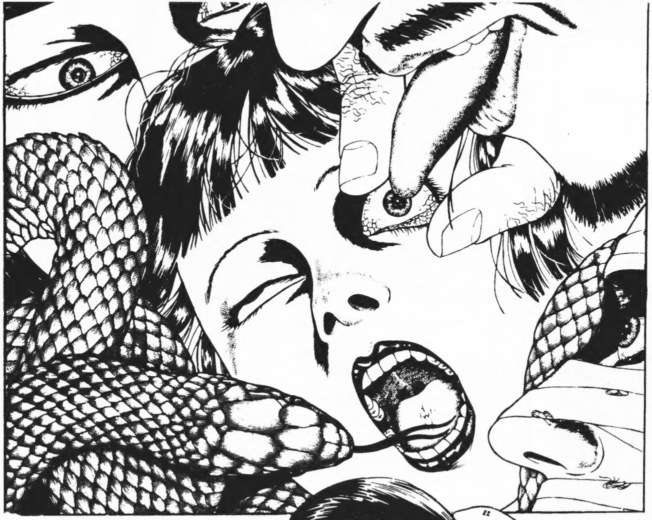

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE
運勢判断
成功の秘訣

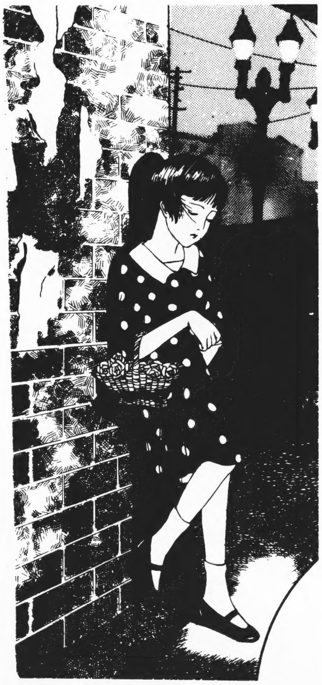


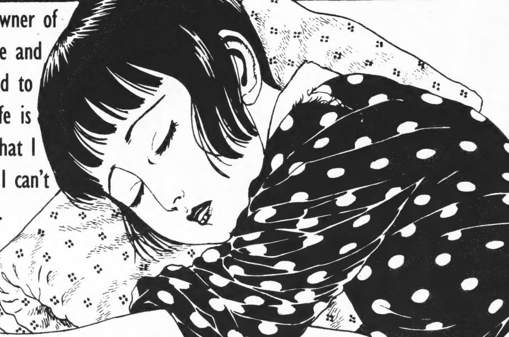


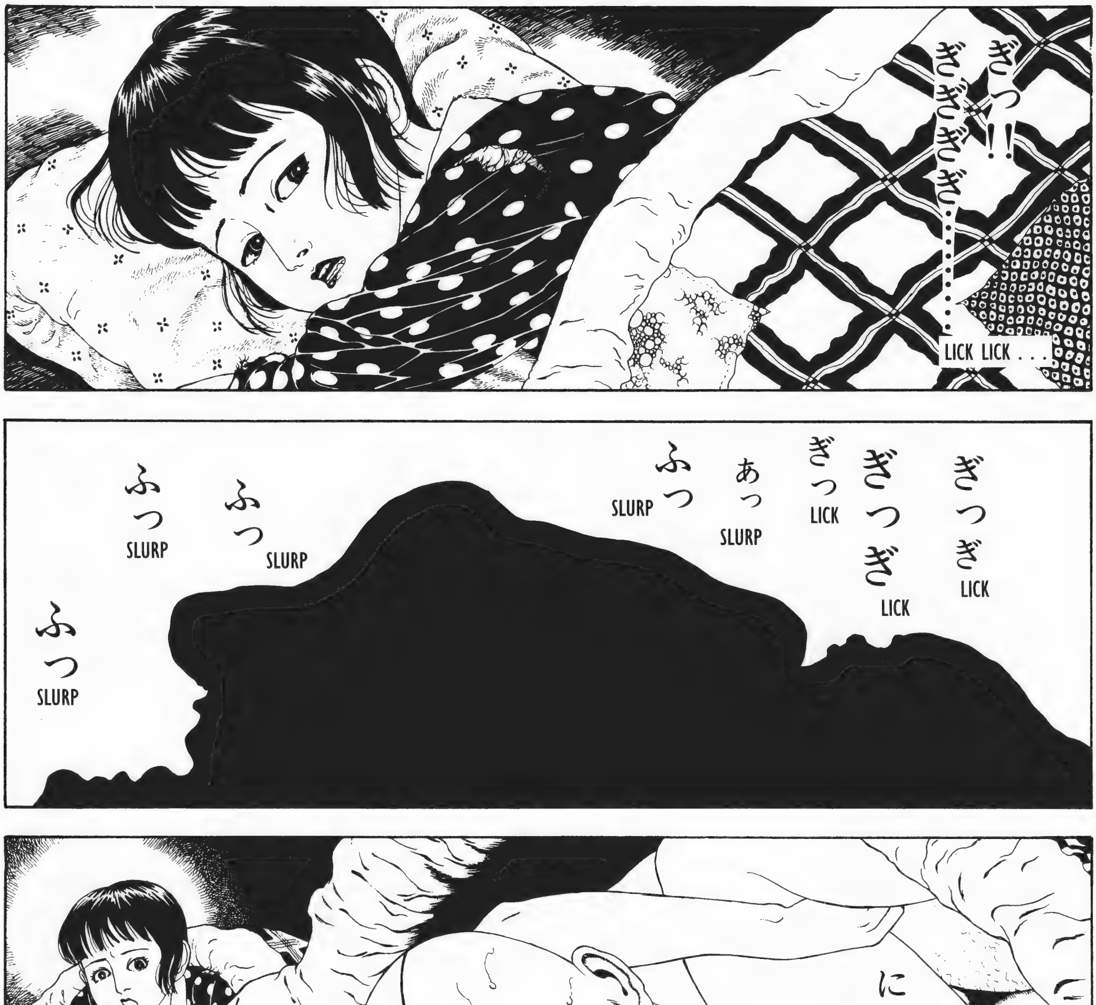
Dear Madame Cassandra:

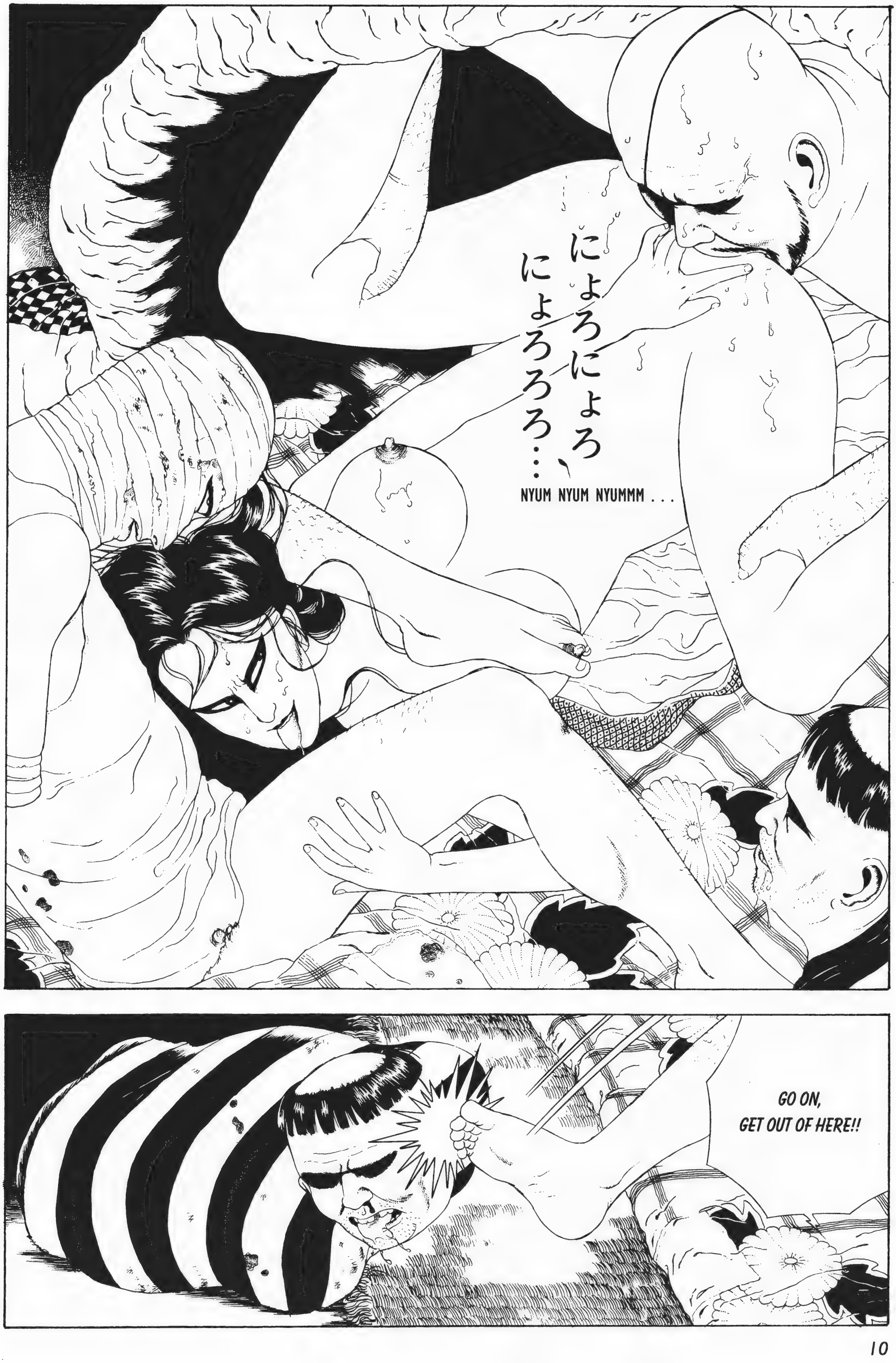
I am twelve years old. Three years ago my father went away and never came back home. So my mother and I were alone, but then she died and I didn't have any place to live anymore. One day I met the owner of a freak show and he tricked me and ever since then I've been forced to work in his awful show. My life is so horrible, sometimes I wish that I could die. I can't go to school. I can't sleep at night, I'm so worried. What will become of me? What should I do?

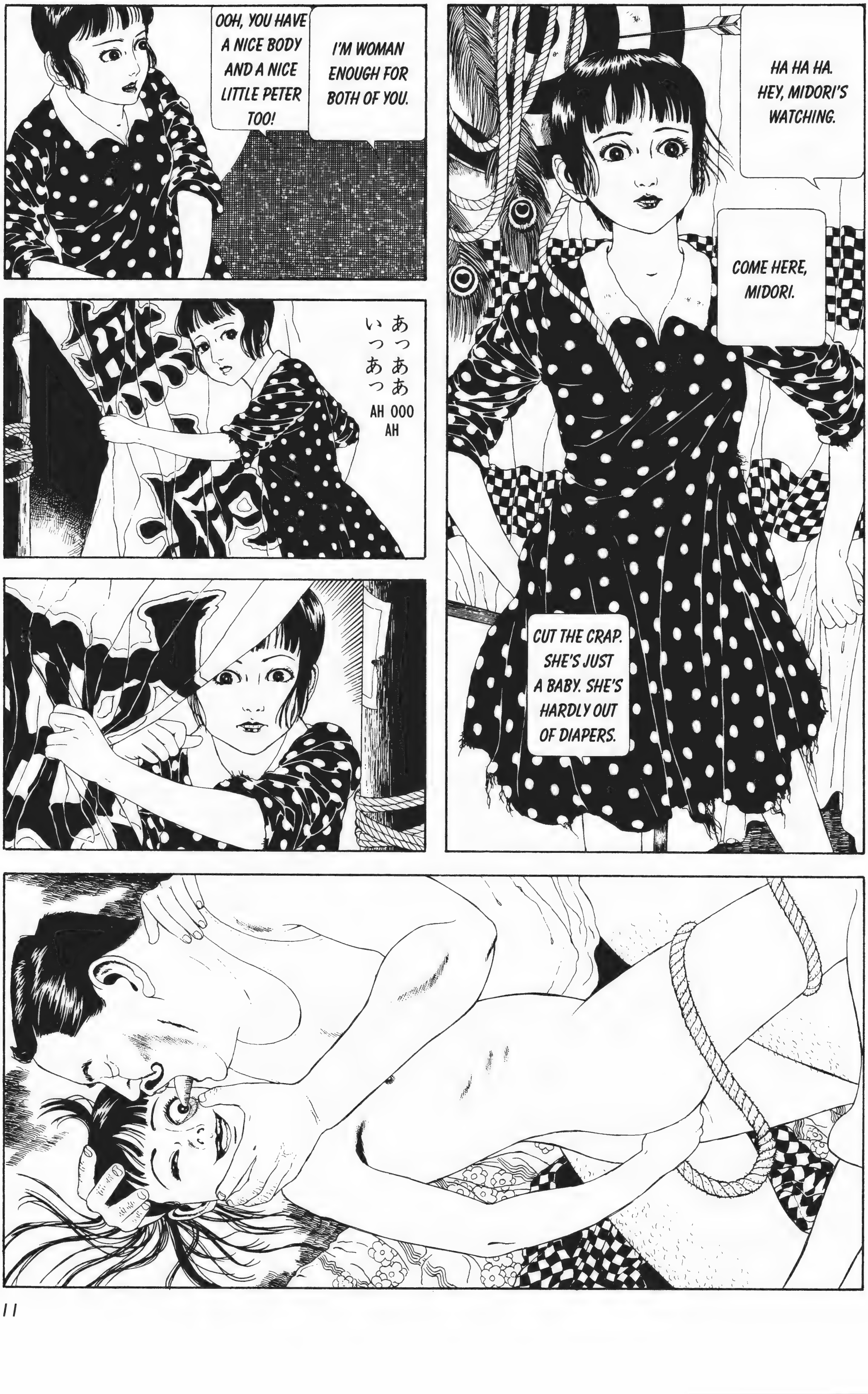


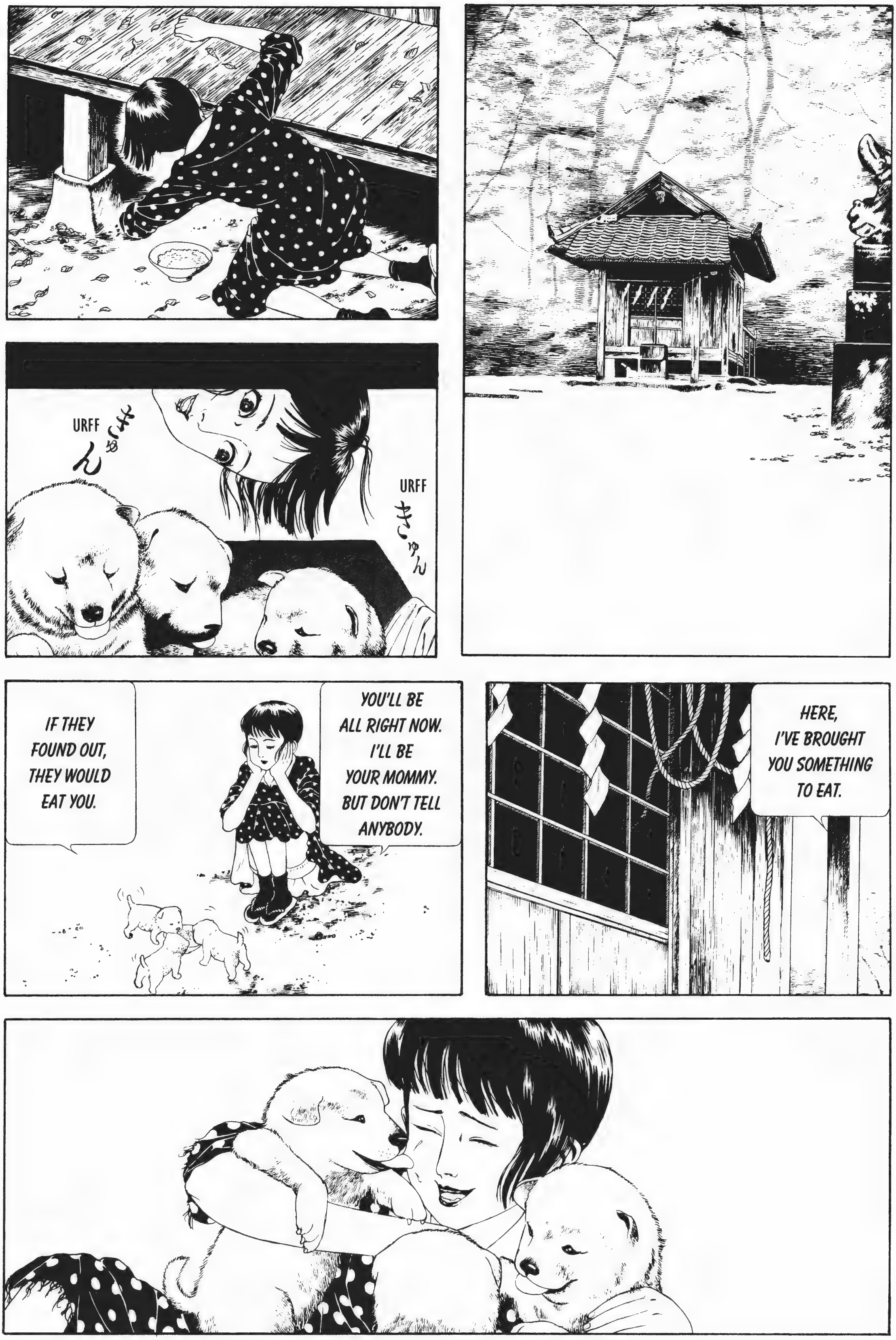


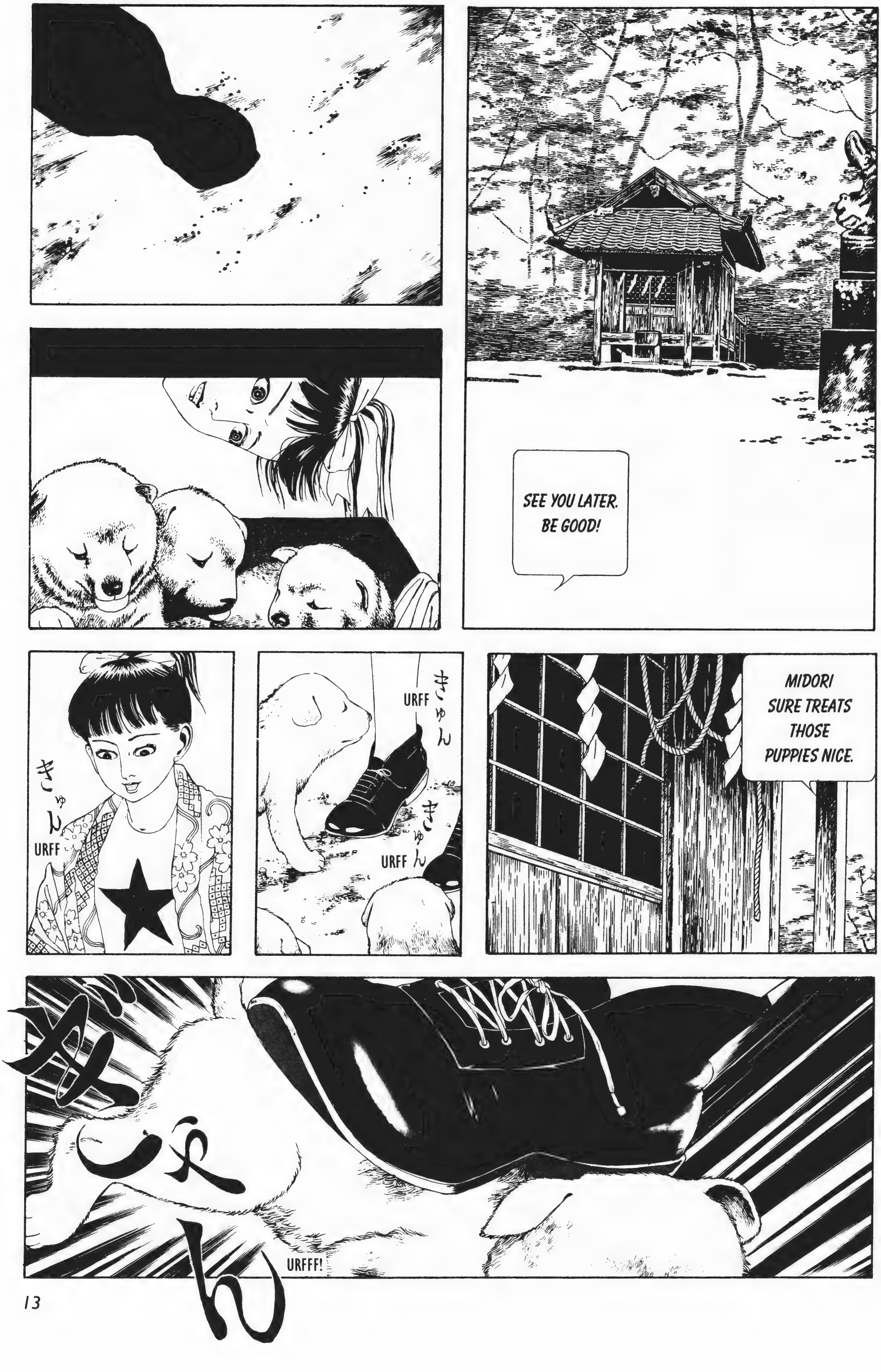


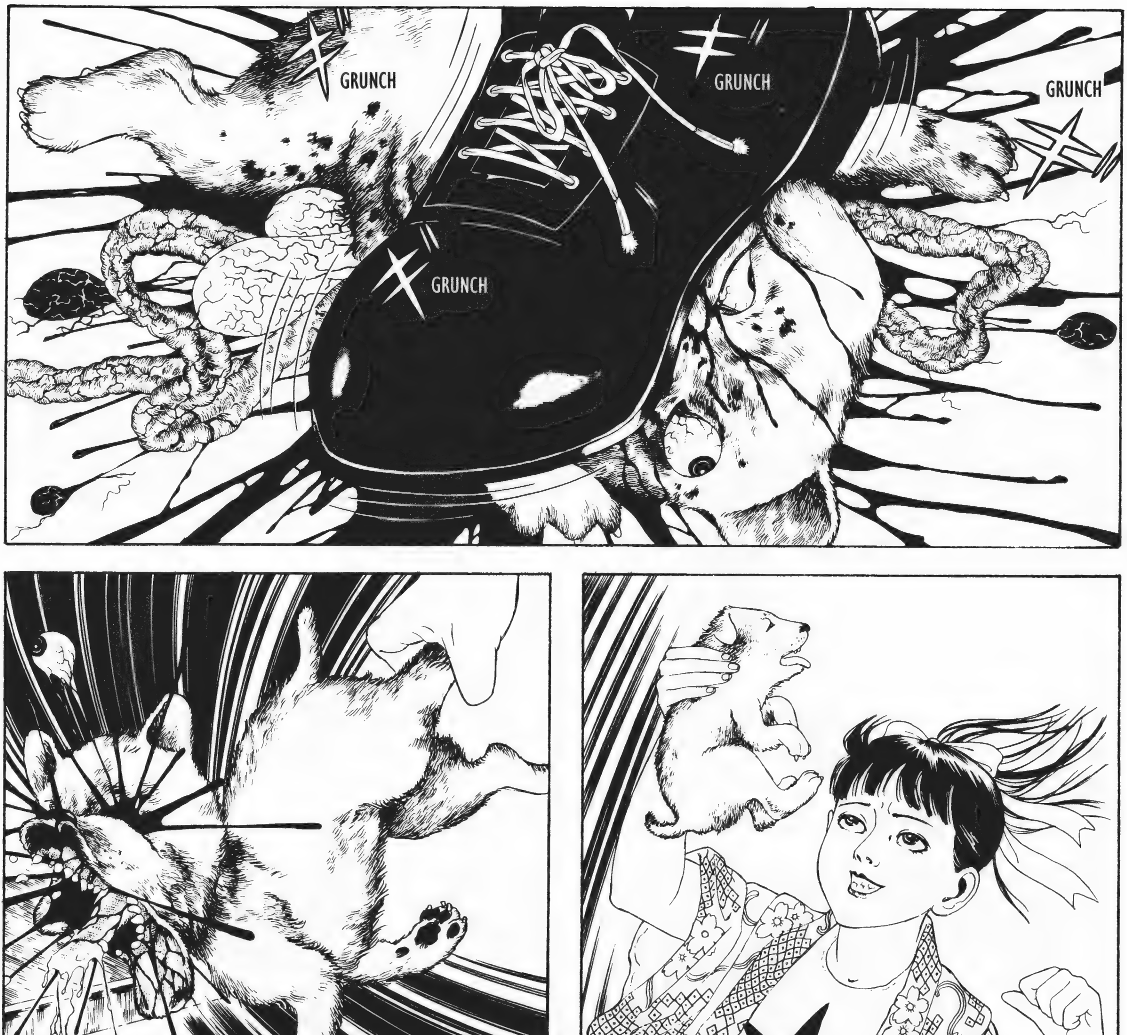

ぎっ!!
ぎぎぎぎ……
LICK LICK . . .
ぎっぎ
LICK
ぎっぎ
LICK
ぎっ
LICK
あっ
SLURP
ふっ
SLURP
ふっ
SLURP
ふっ
SLURP
ふっ
SLURP
にょろ…
NYUM . . .

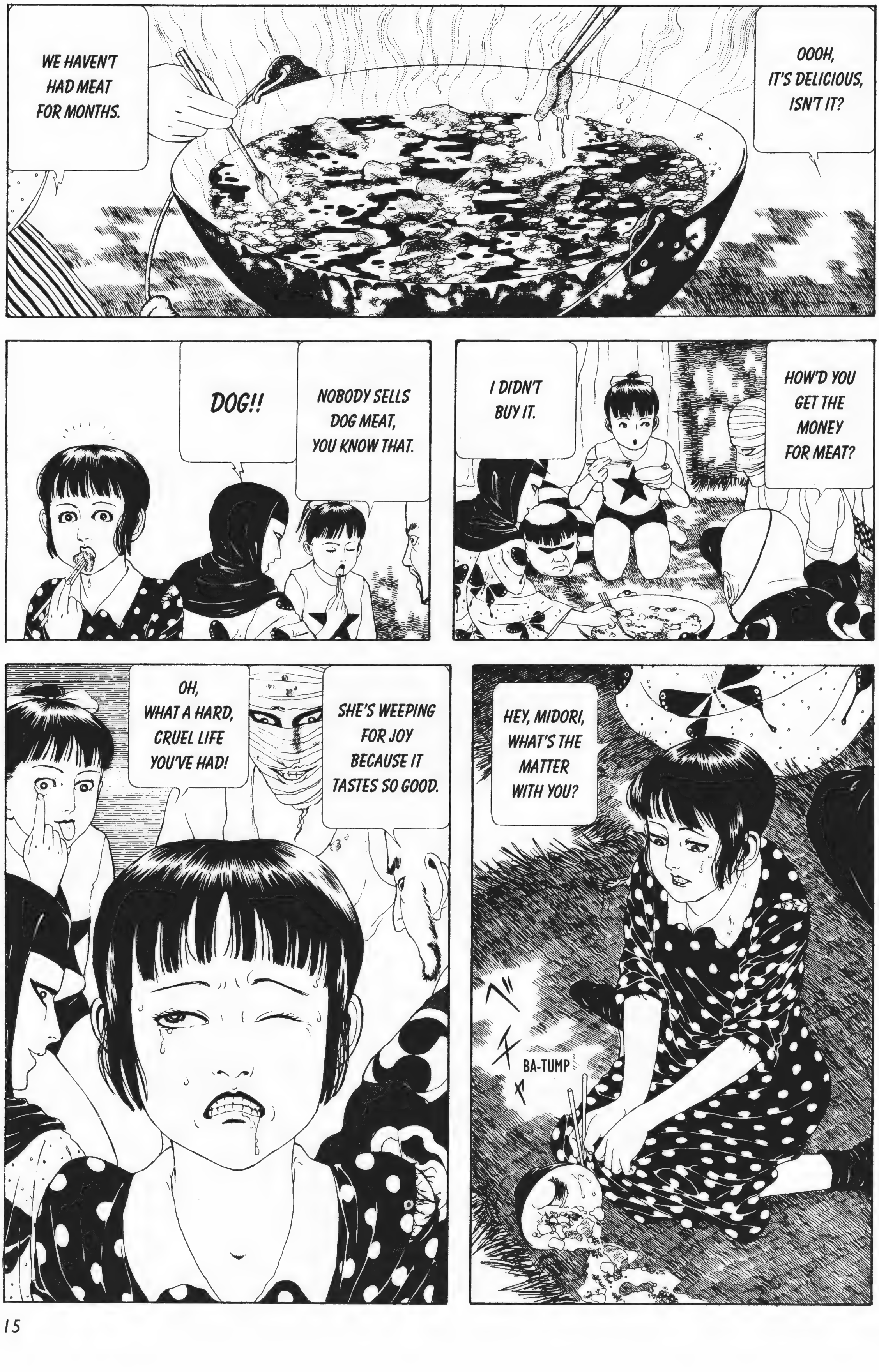

にょろにょろ、
にょろろろ…
NYUM NYUM NYUMMM . . .
GO ON,
GET OUT OF HERE!!

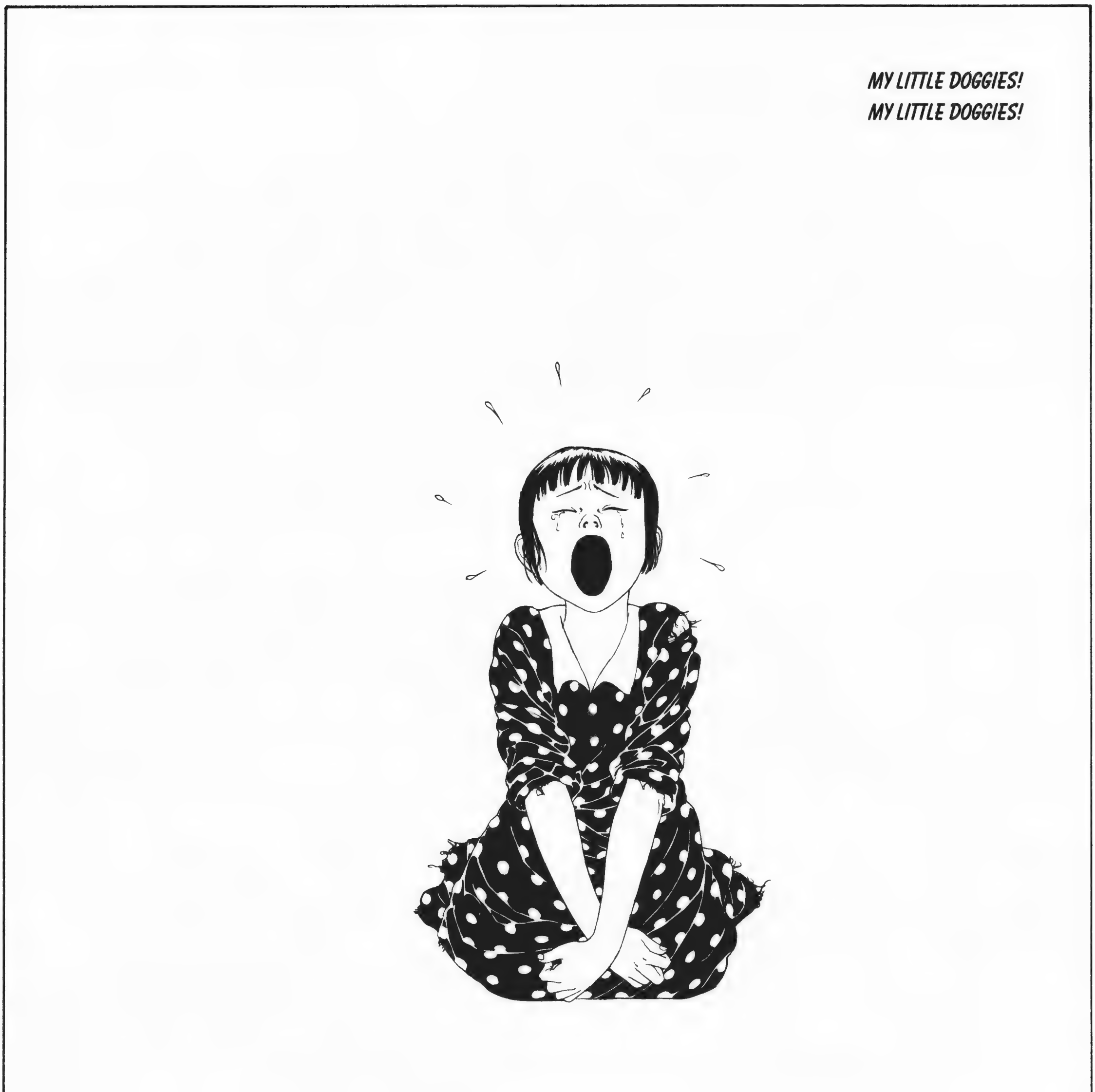

HA HA HA. HEY, MIDORI'S WATCHING.
COME HERE, MIDORI.
CUT THE CRAP. SHE'S JUST A BABY. SHE'S HARDLY OUT OF DIAPERS.
I'M WOMAN ENOUGH FOR BOTH OF YOU.
OOH, YOU HAVE A NICE BODY AND A NICE LITTLE PETER TOO!
あっああ
いっあっ
AH OOO AH


URFF
きゅん
URFF
きゅん
HERE, I'VE BROUGHT YOU SOMETHING TO EAT.
YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT NOW. I'LL BE YOUR MOMMY. BUT DON'T TELL ANYBODY.
IF THEY FOUND OUT, THEY WOULD EAT YOU.


SEE YOU LATER. BE GOOD!
MIDORI SURE TREATS THOSE PUPPIES NICE.
きゅん
URFF
きゅん
URFF
きゅん
URFF
ぎゃん
URFFF!

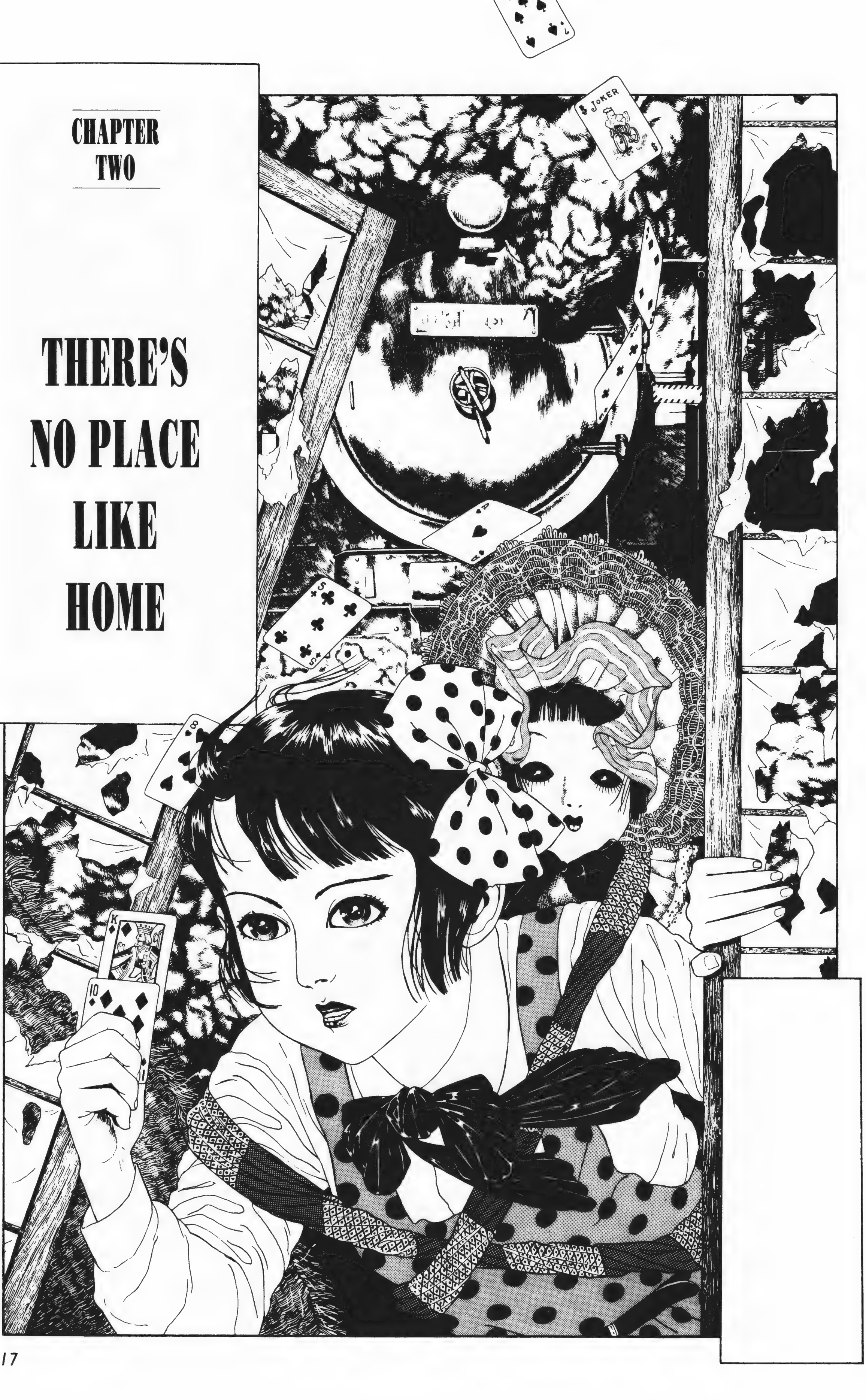

GRUNCH
GRUNCH
GRUNCH
GRUNCH
BASH, BASH, BASH

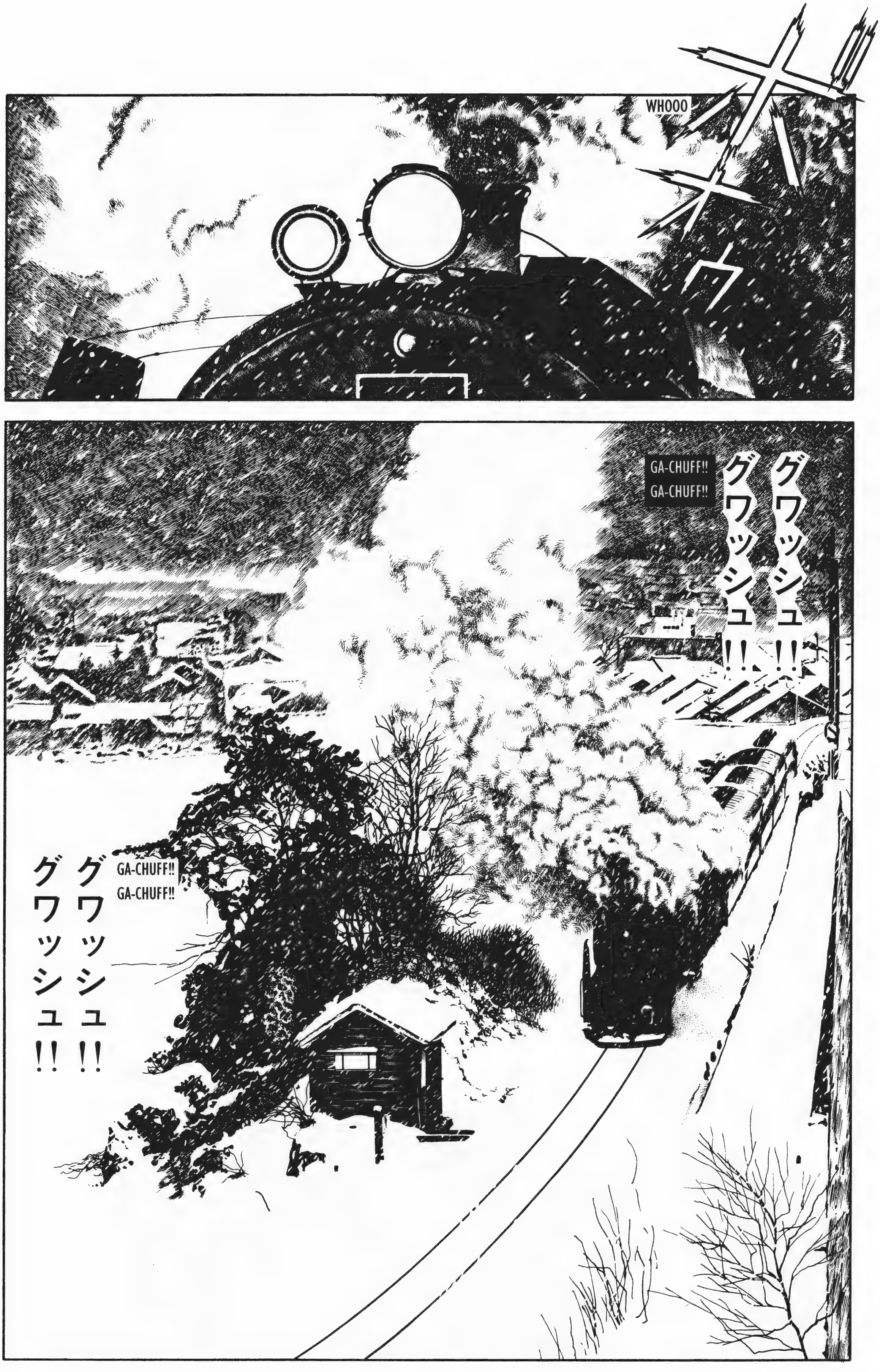

OOOH, IT'S DELICIOUS, ISN'T IT?
WE HAVEN'T HAD MEAT FOR MONTHS.
HOW'D YOU GET THE MONEY FOR MEAT?
I DIDN'T BUY IT.
NOBODY SELLS DOG MEAT, YOU KNOW THAT.
DOG!!
HEY, MIDORI, WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?
ベチャ
BA-TUMP
SHE'S WEEPING FOR JOY BECAUSE IT TASTES SO GOOD.
OH, WHAT A HARD, CRUEL LIFE YOU'VE HAD!

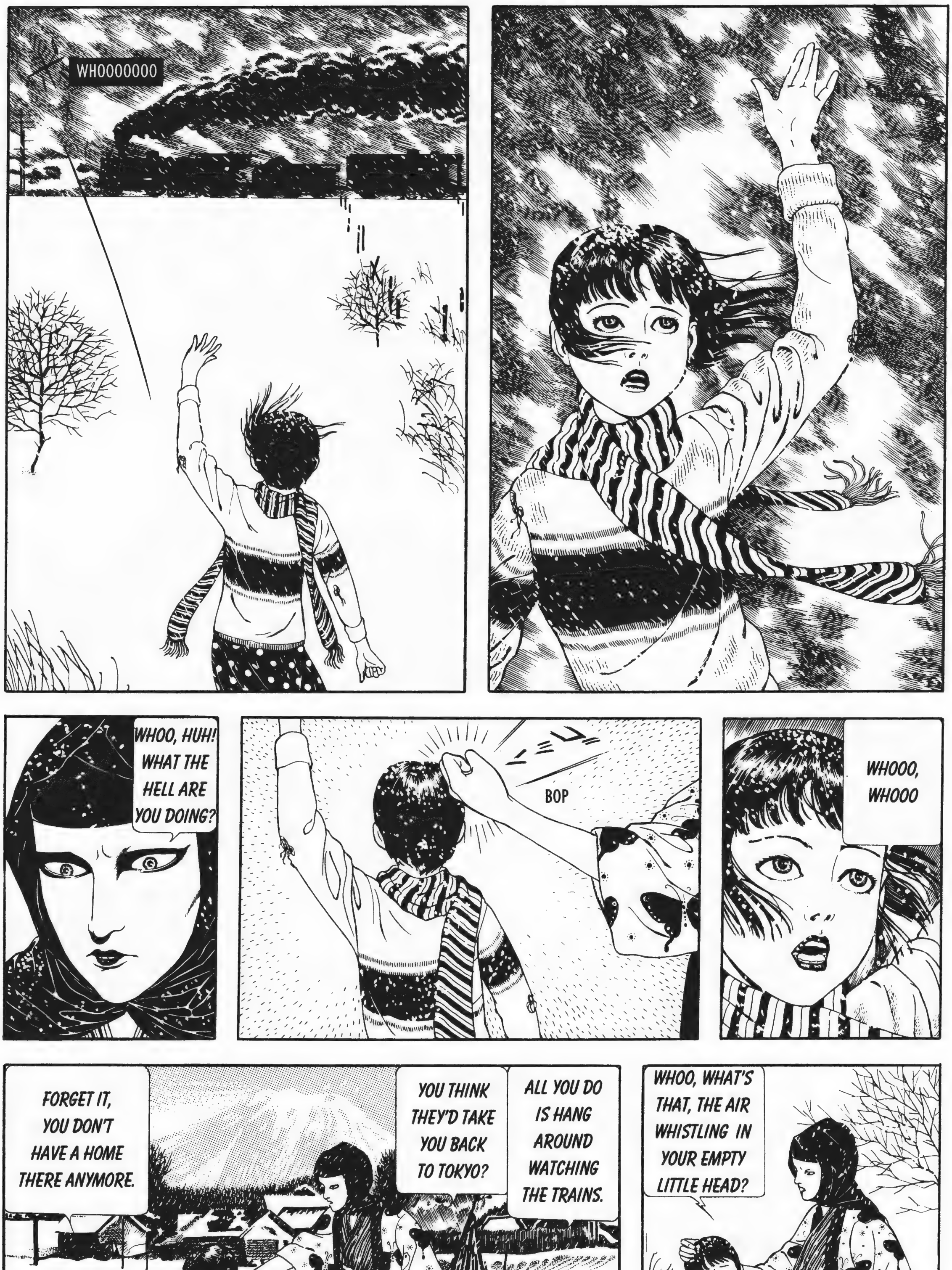

MY LITTLE DOGGIES!
MY LITTLE DOGGIES!

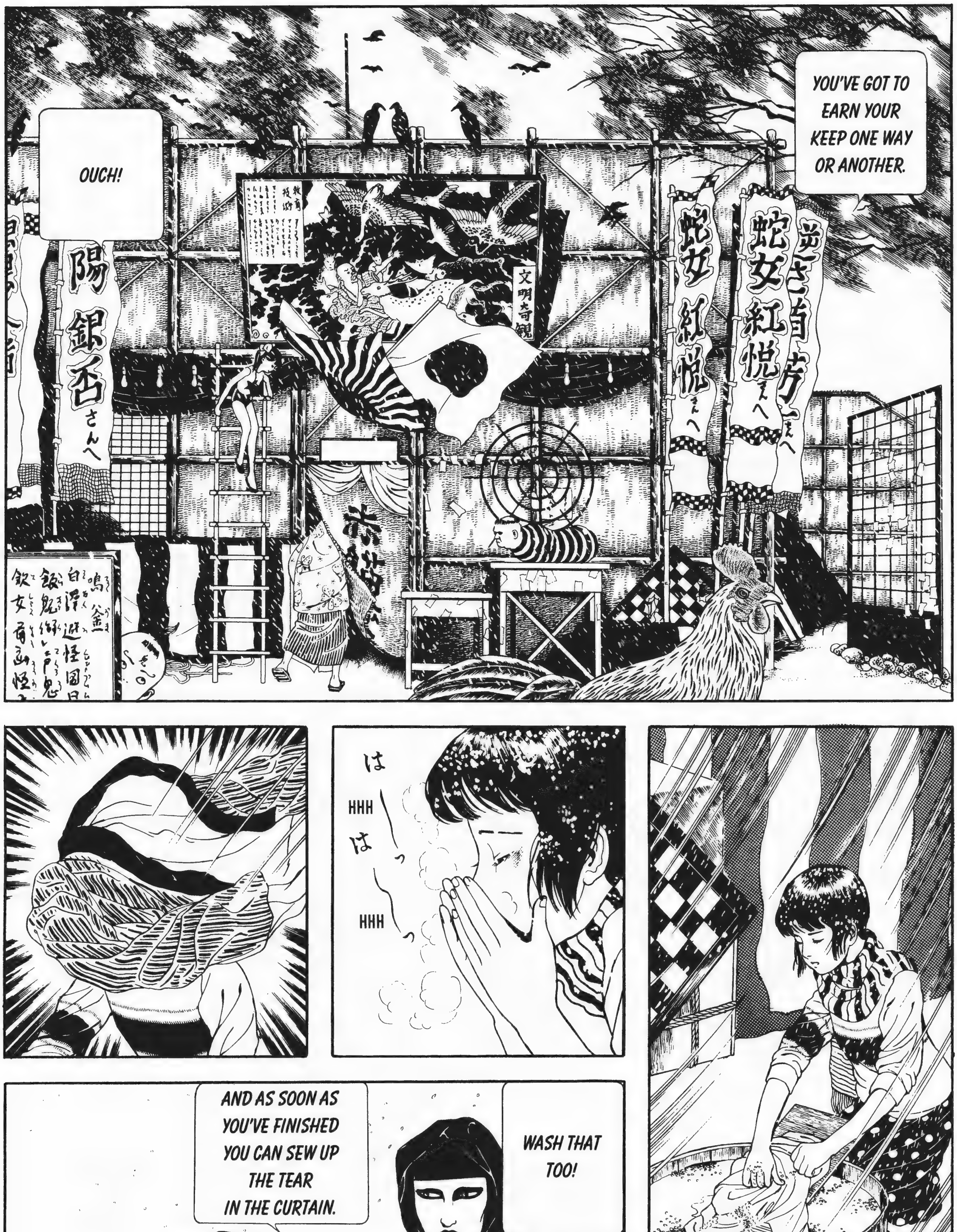
CHAPTER TWO

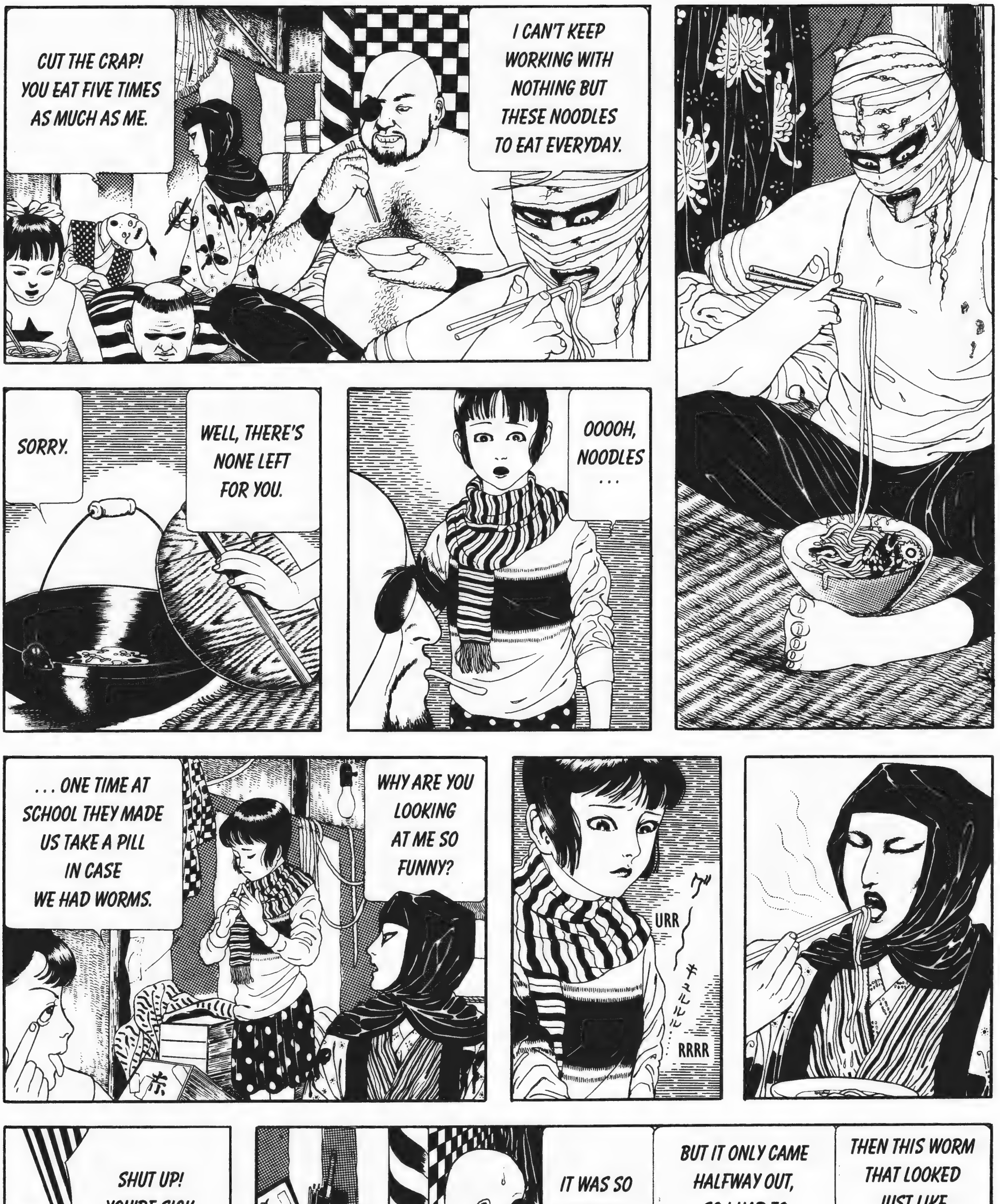
THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

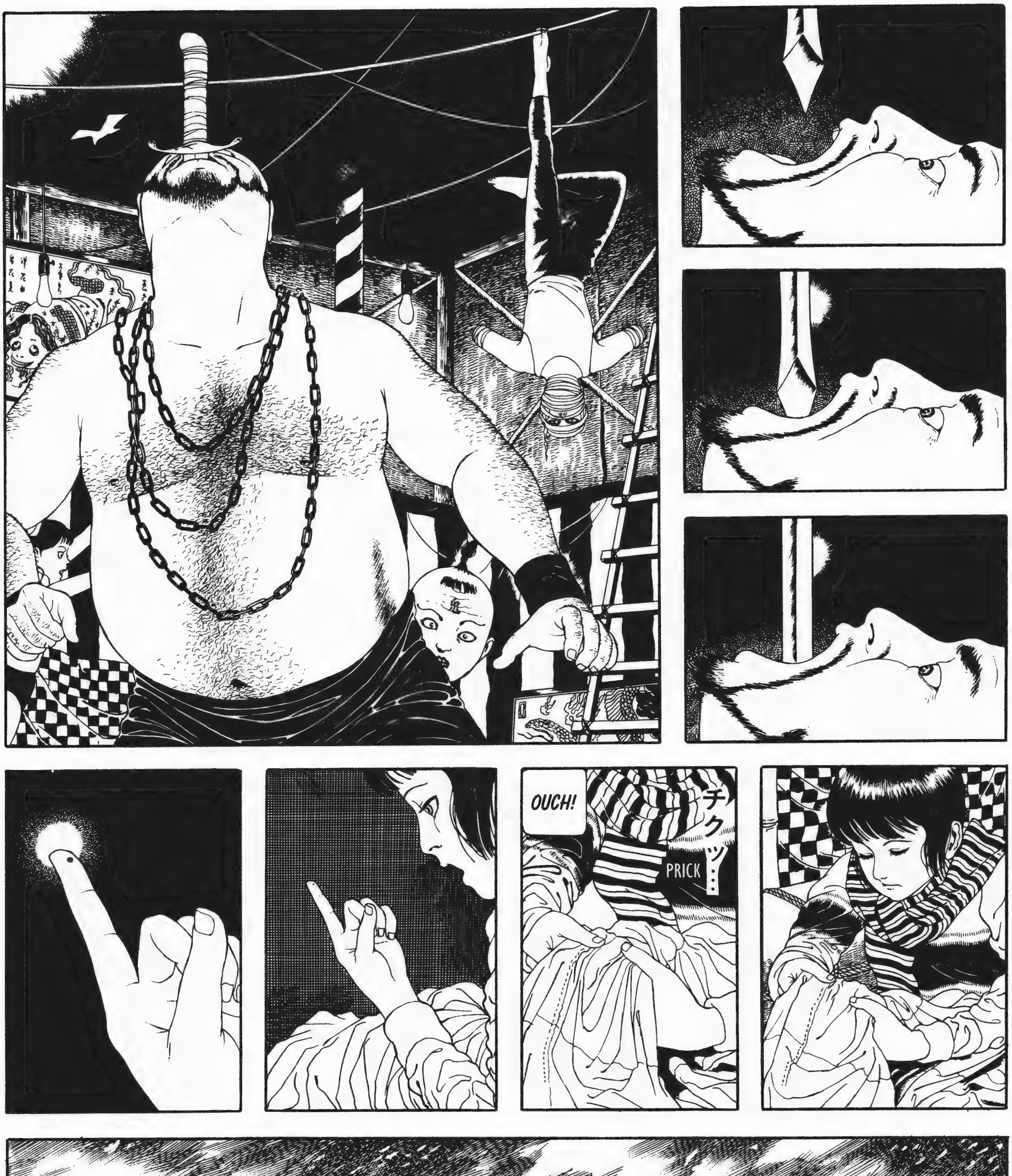


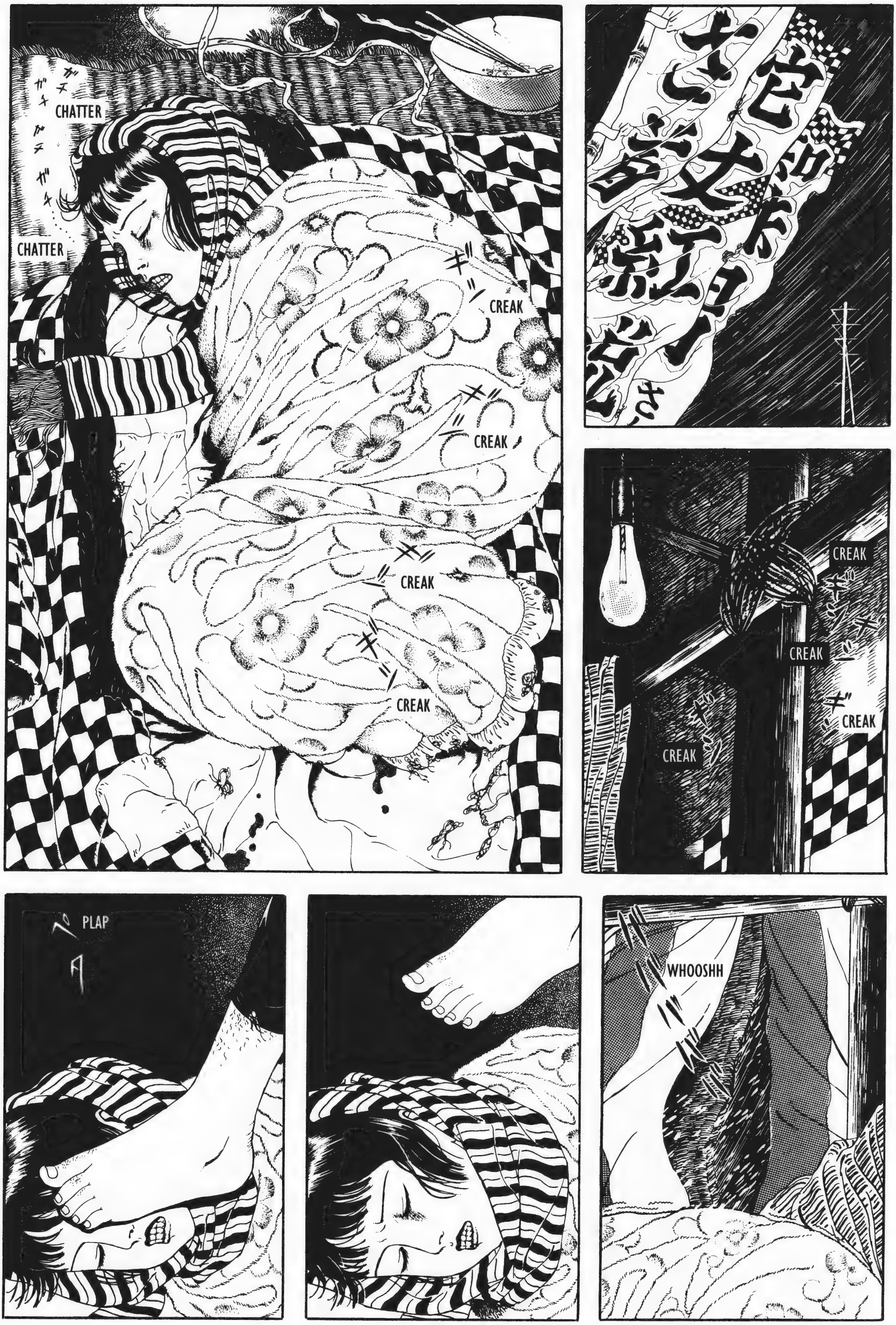

ボオウ
WHOOO
グワッシュ!!
グワッシュ!!
GA-CHUFF!!
GA-CHUFF!!
グワッシュ!!
グワッシュ!!
GA-CHUFF!!
GA-CHUFF!!

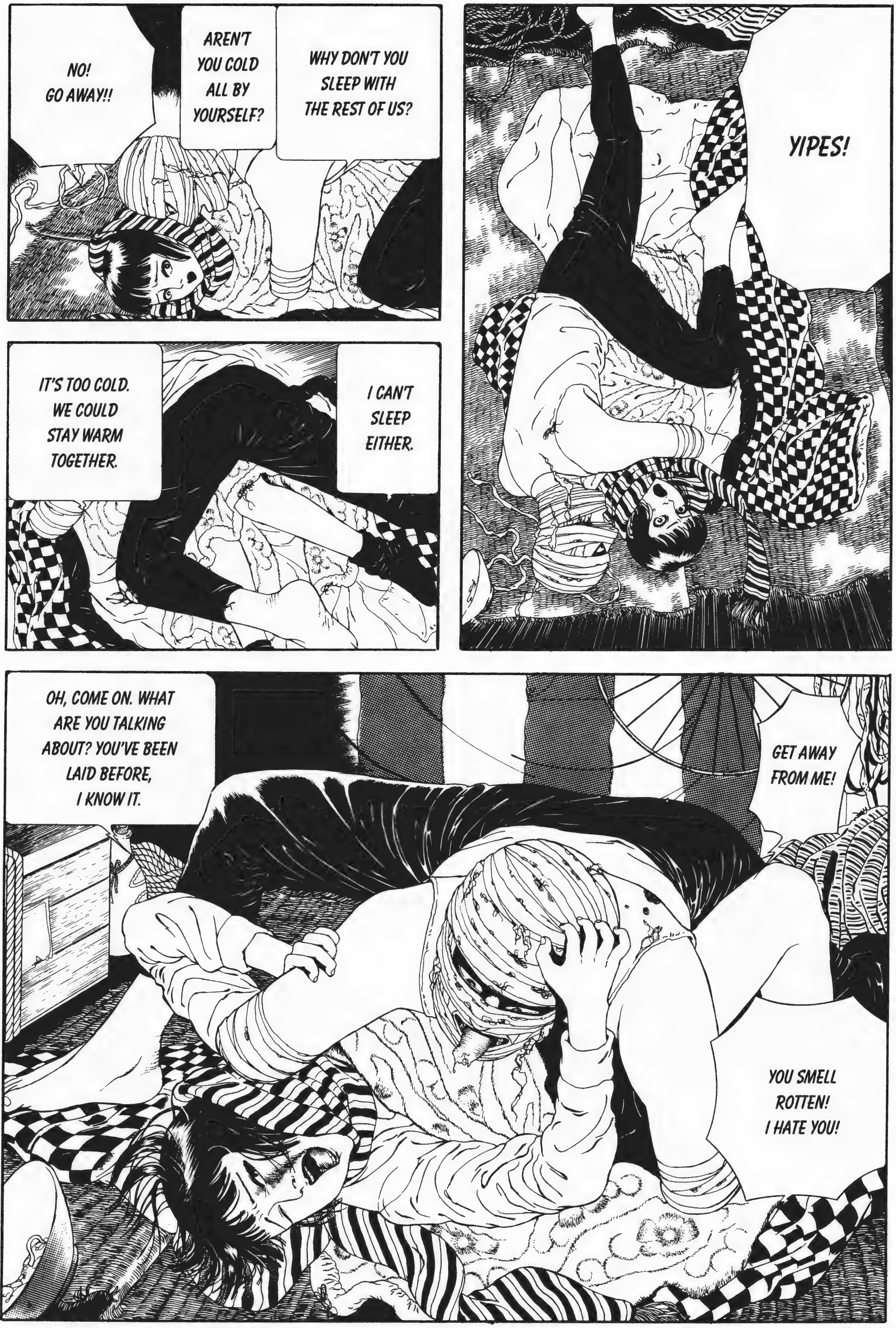

WHOOOOOOO
WHOO, HUH! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
BOP
WHOOO, WHOOO
ALL YOU DO IS HANG AROUND WATCHING THE TRAINS.
YOU THINK THEY'D TAKE YOU BACK TO TOKYO?
FORGET IT, YOU DON'T HAVE A HOME THERE ANYMORE.
WHOO, WHAT'S THAT, THE AIR WHISTLING IN YOUR EMPTY LITTLE HEAD?

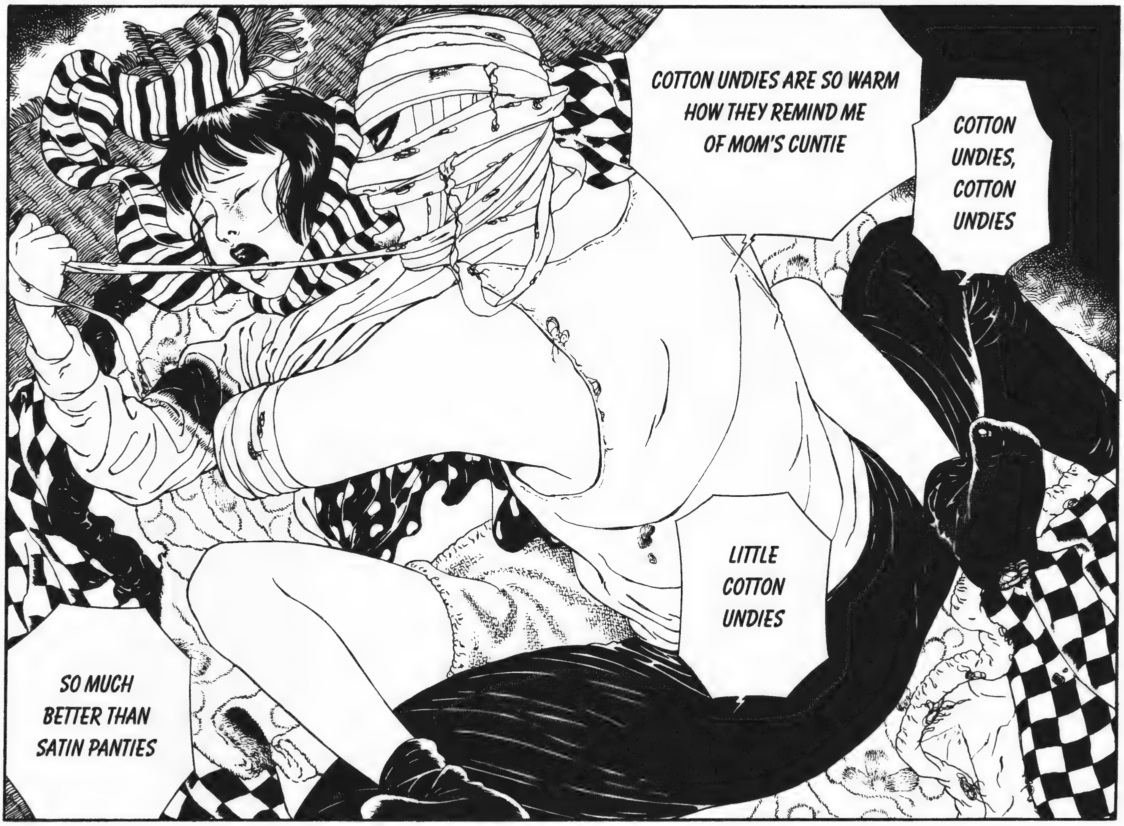

YOU'VE GOT TO EARN YOUR KEEP ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.
蛇女紅悦さんへ
蛇女 紅悦さんへ
文明奇観
陽 銀杏さんへ
OUCH!
は HHH
は HHH
WASH THAT TOO!
AND AS SOON AS YOU'VE FINISHED YOU CAN SEW UP THE TEAR IN THE CURTAIN.

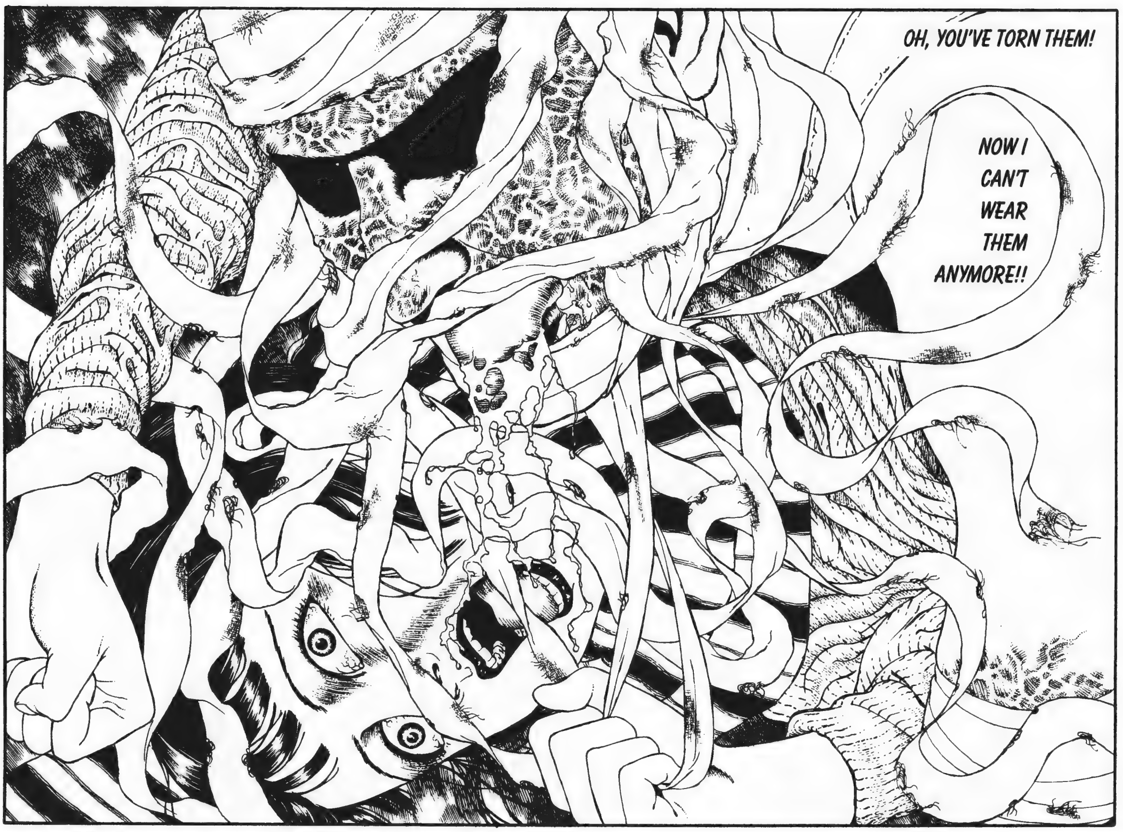

I CAN'T KEEP WORKING WITH NOTHING BUT THESE NOODLES TO EAT EVERYDAY.
CUT THE CRAP! YOU EAT FIVE TIMES AS MUCH AS ME.
OOOOH, NOODLES . . .
WELL, THERE'S NONE LEFT FOR YOU.
SORRY.
ゲ
URR
キュルルル…
RRRR
WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME SO FUNNY?
. . . ONE TIME AT SCHOOL THEY MADE US TAKE A PILL IN CASE WE HAD WORMS.
THEN THIS WORM THAT LOOKED JUST LIKE A NOODLE CAME OUT OF MY BUTT.
BUT IT ONLY CAME HALFWAY OUT, SO I HAD TO PULL IT OUT WITH MY FINGERS.
IT WAS SO SLIPPERY . . .
SHUT UP! YOU'RE SICK.
TUMP

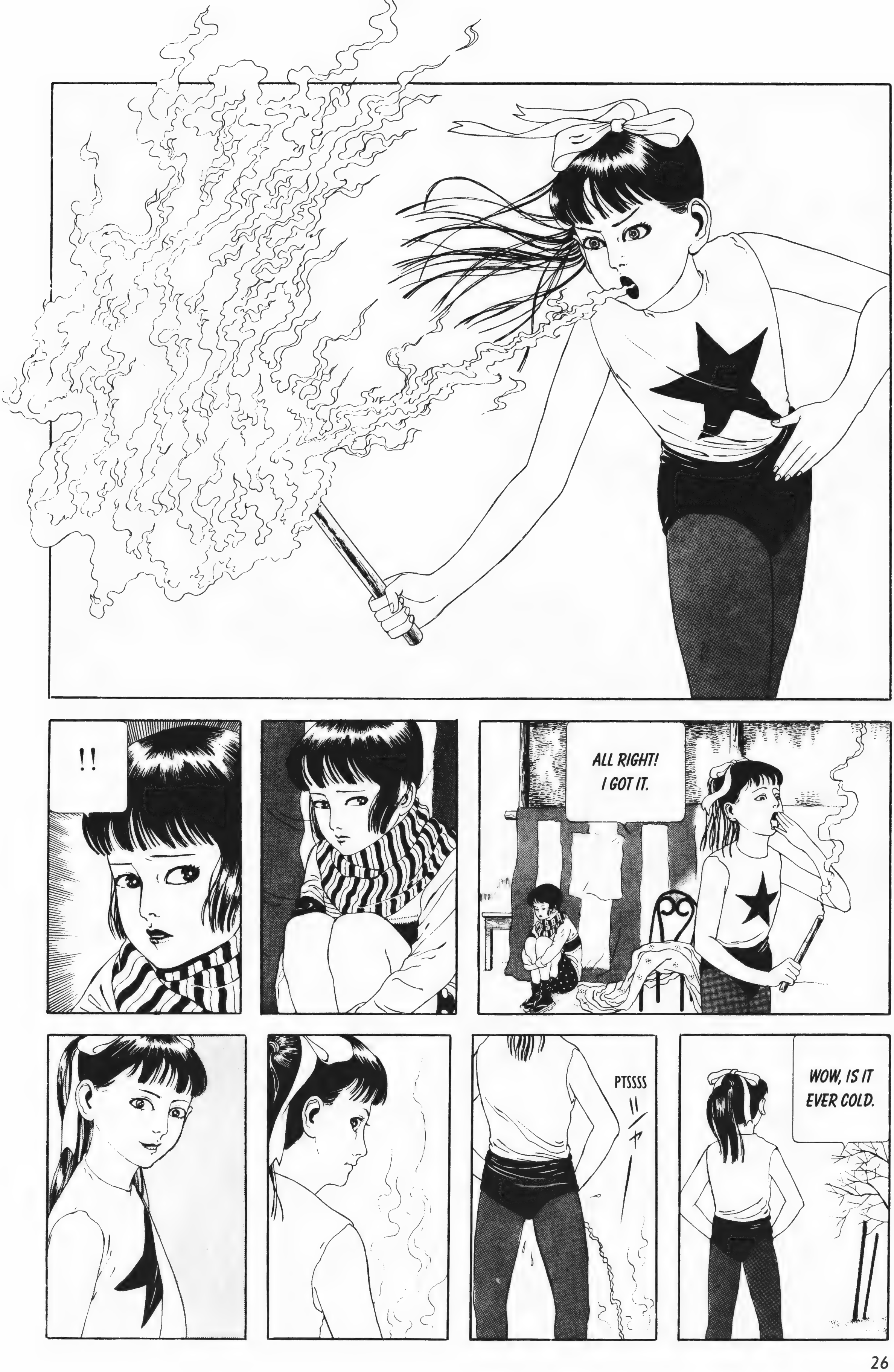

チクッ…
PRICK
OUCH!

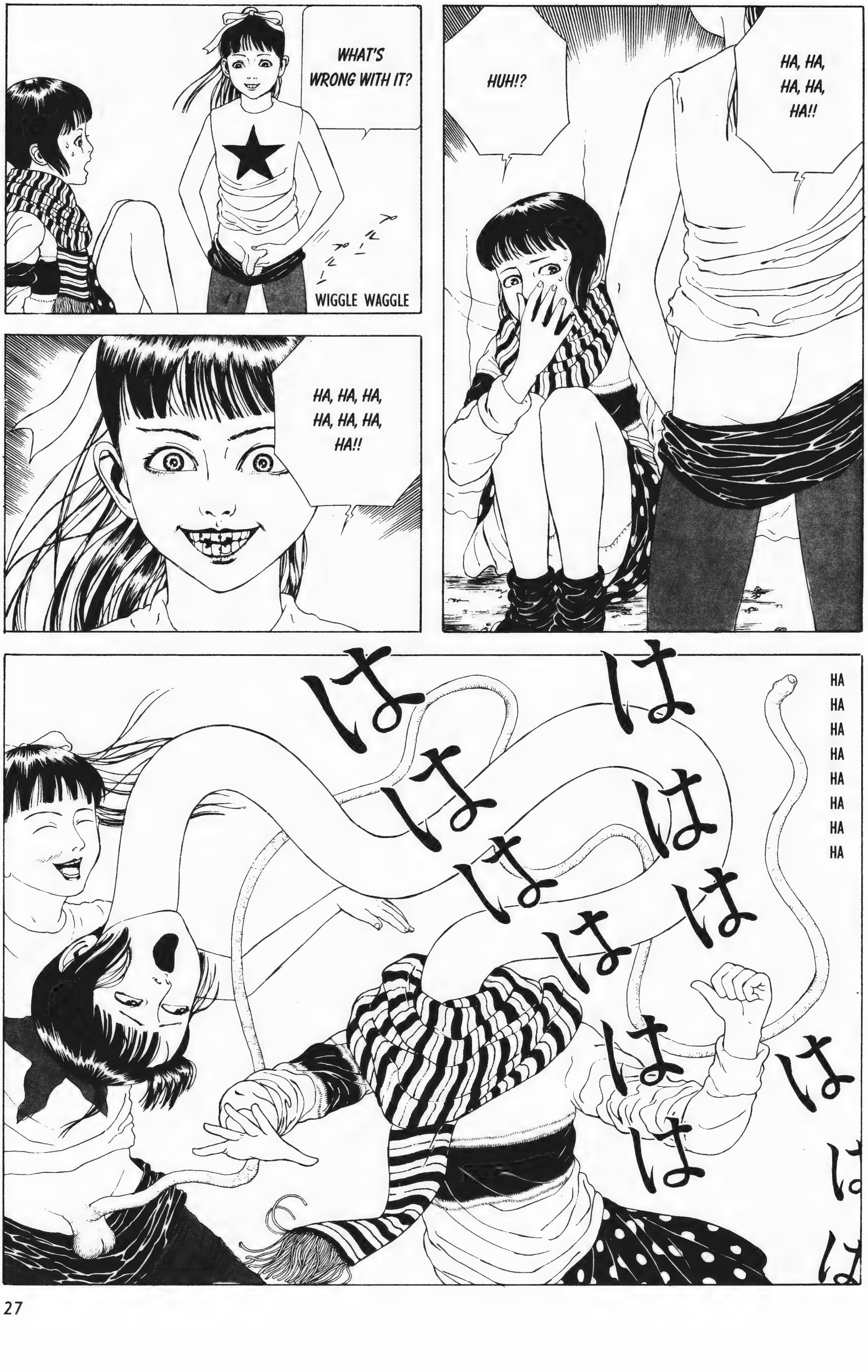

ガチガチ
CHATTER
ガチガチ
CHATTER
ギギ
CREAK
ギギ
CREAK
ギギ
CREAK
ギギ
CREAK
CREAK
ギギ
CREAK
ギギ
CREAK
ギギ
CREAK
WHOOSHH
ペタ
PLAP

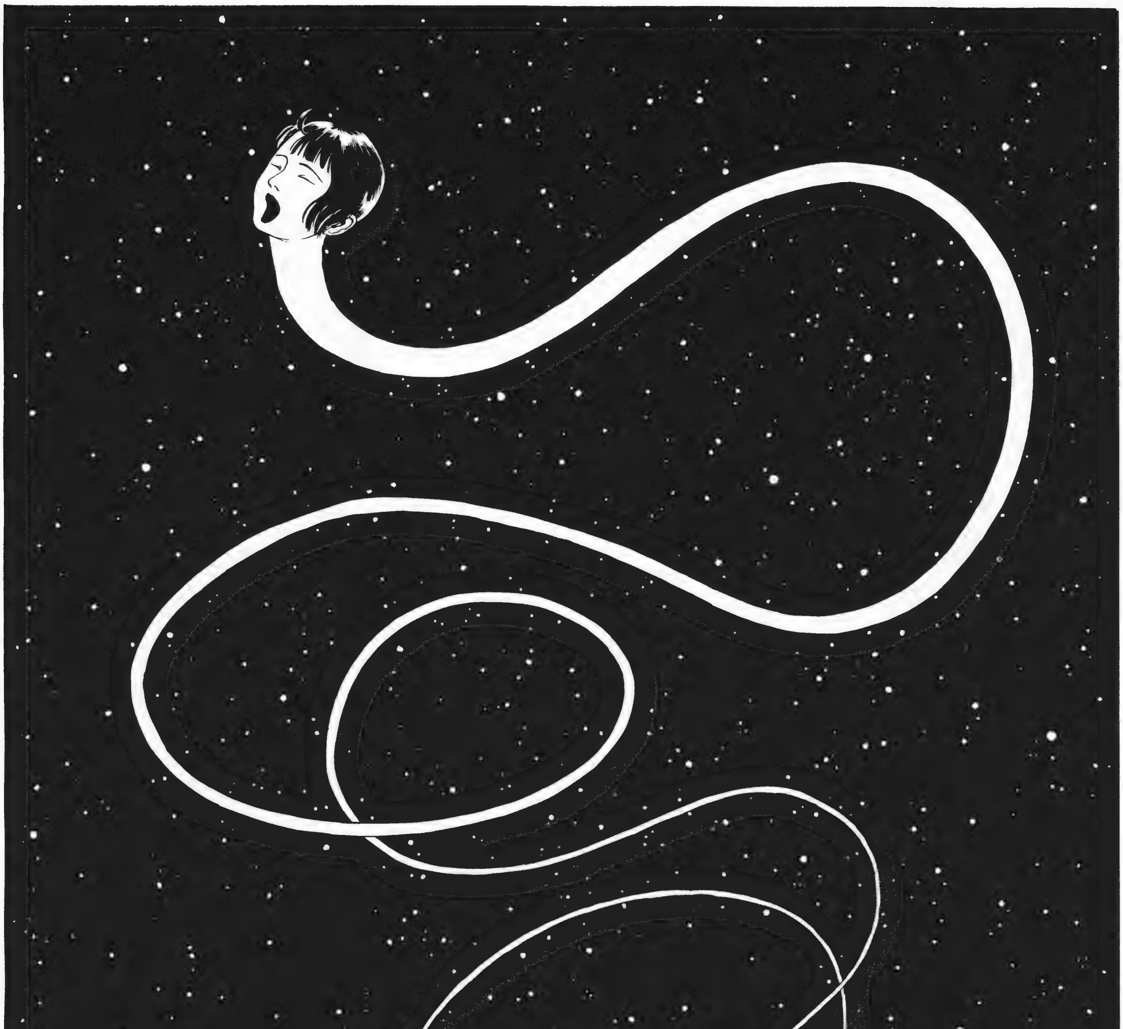

WHY DON'T YOU SLEEP WITH THE REST OF US?
AREN'T YOU COLD ALL BY YOURSELF?
NO! GO AWAY!!
I CAN'T SLEEP EITHER.
IT'S TOO COLD. WE COULD STAY WARM TOGETHER.
YIPES!
GET AWAY FROM ME!
OH, COME ON. WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU'VE BEEN LAID BEFORE, I KNOW IT.
YOU SMELL ROTTEN! I HATE YOU!

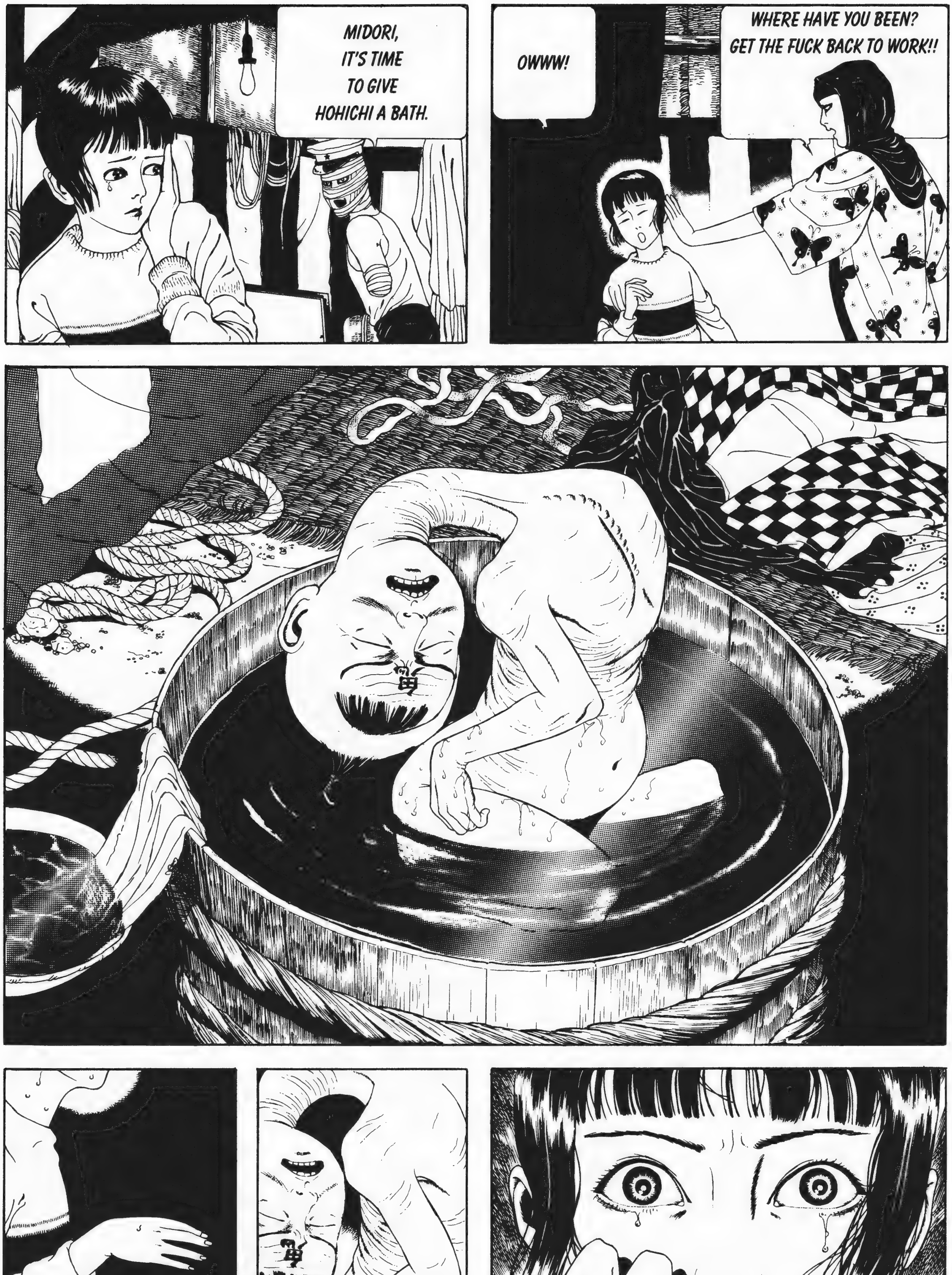

COTTON UNDIES, COTTON UNDIES
COTTON UNDIES ARE SO WARM HOW THEY REMIND ME OF MOM'S CUNTIE
LITTLE COTTON UNDIES
SO MUCH BETTER THAN SATIN PANTIES

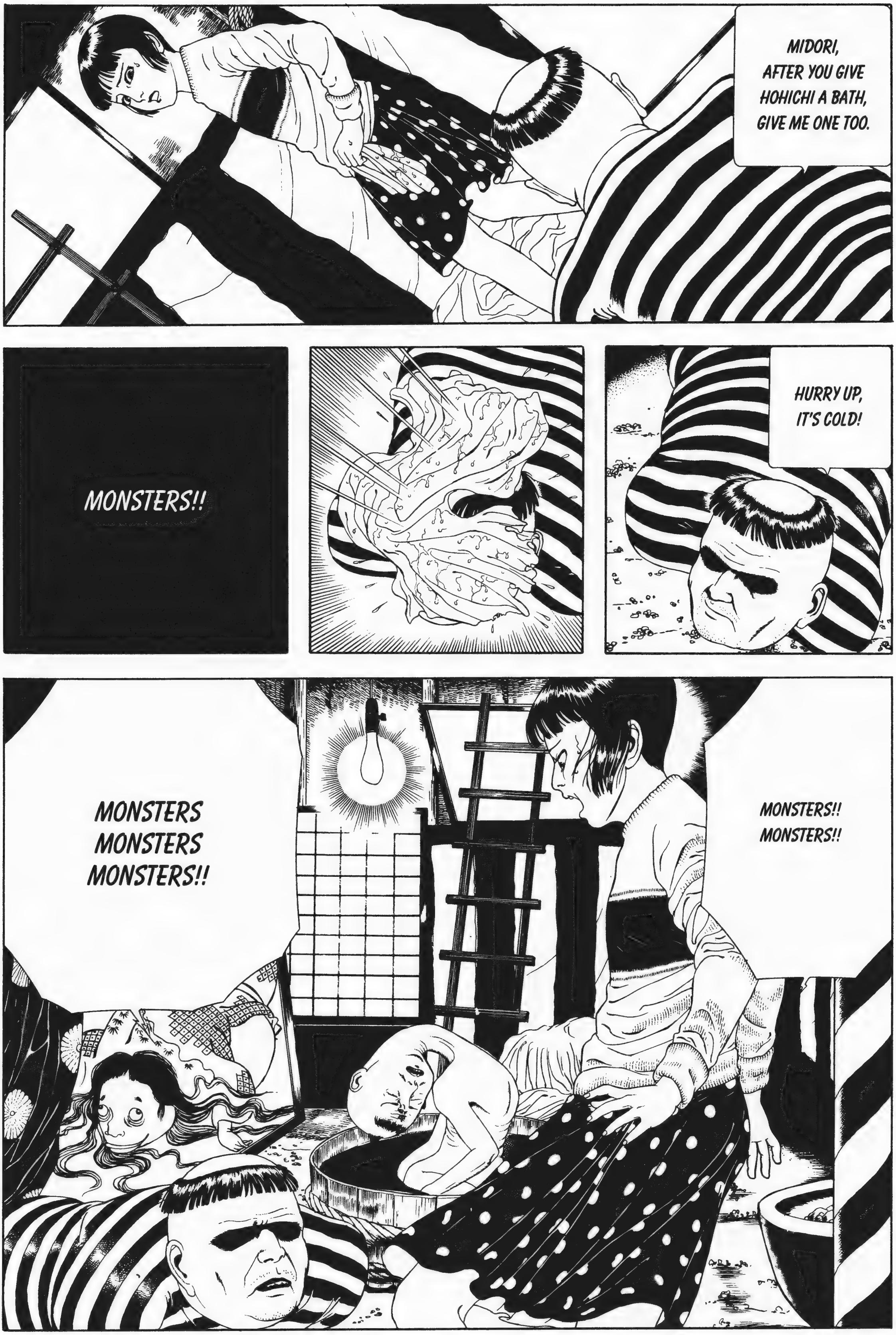

OH, YOU'VE TORN THEM!
NOW I CAN'T WEAR THEM ANYMORE!!

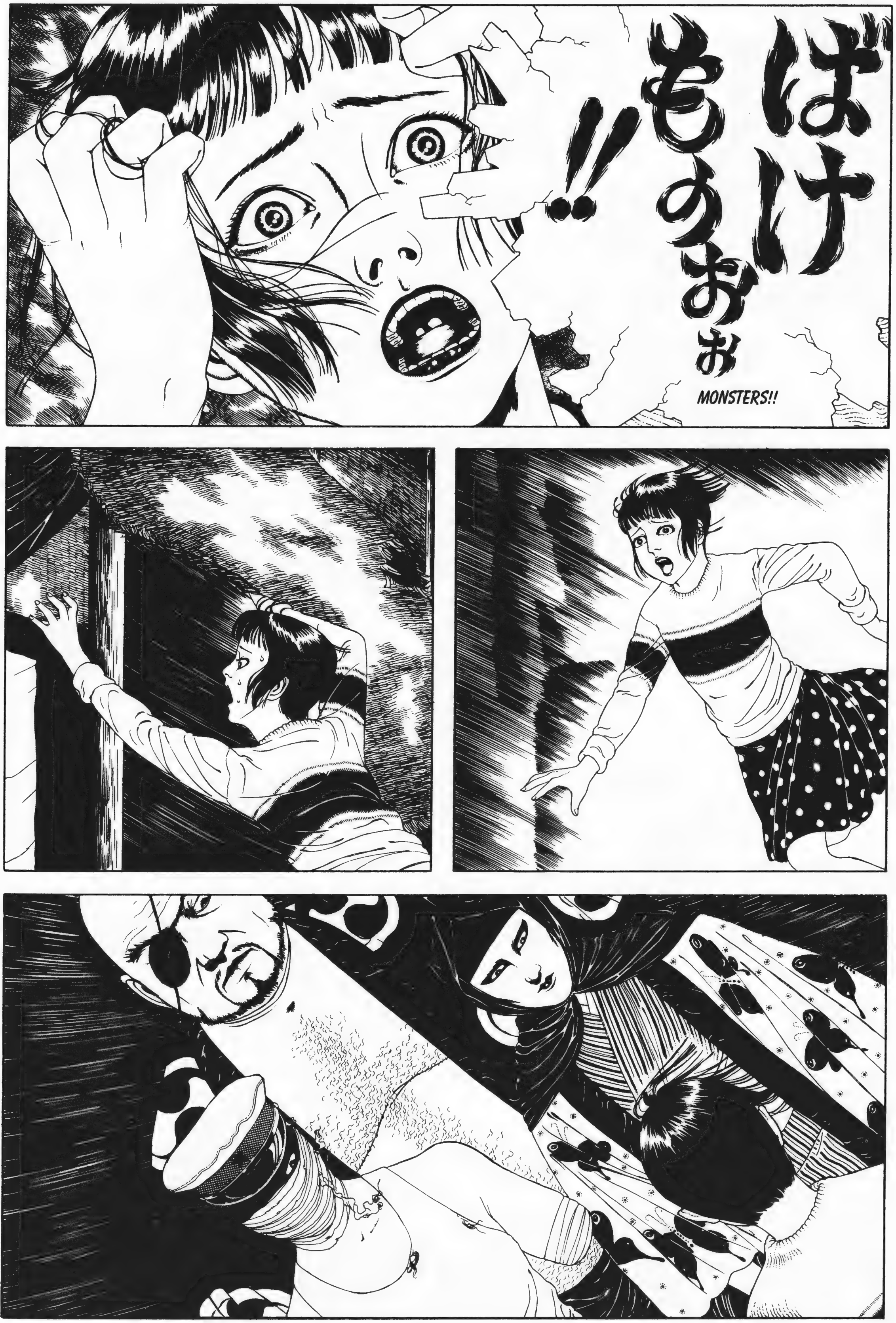

!!
ALL RIGHT! I GOT IT.
PTSSSS
シャー
WOW, IS IT EVER COLD.


HA, HA, HA, HA, HA!!
HUH!?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT?
WIGGLE WAGGLE
HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA!!
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
はは
は
はははは
はははは


OH, IF ONLY MY HEAD COULD ESCAPE THIS WORLD.


MIDORI, IT'S TIME TO GIVE HOHICHI A BATH.
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? GET THE FUCK BACK TO WORK!!
OWWW!

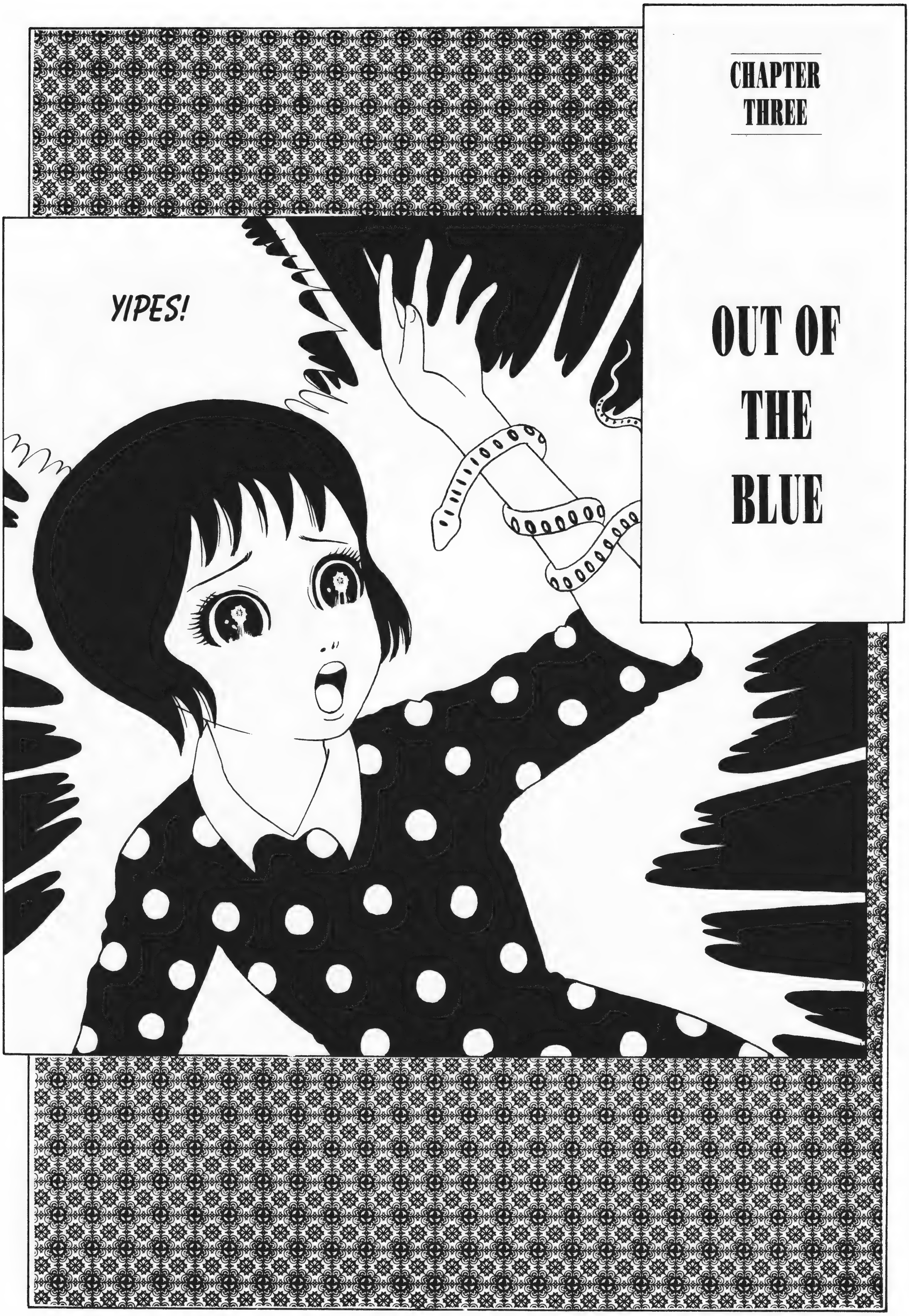

MIDORI, AFTER YOU GIVE HOHICHI A BATH, GIVE ME ONE TOO.
MONSTERS!!
HURRY UP, IT'S COLD!
MONSTERS MONSTERS MONSTERS!!
MONSTERS!! MONSTERS!!

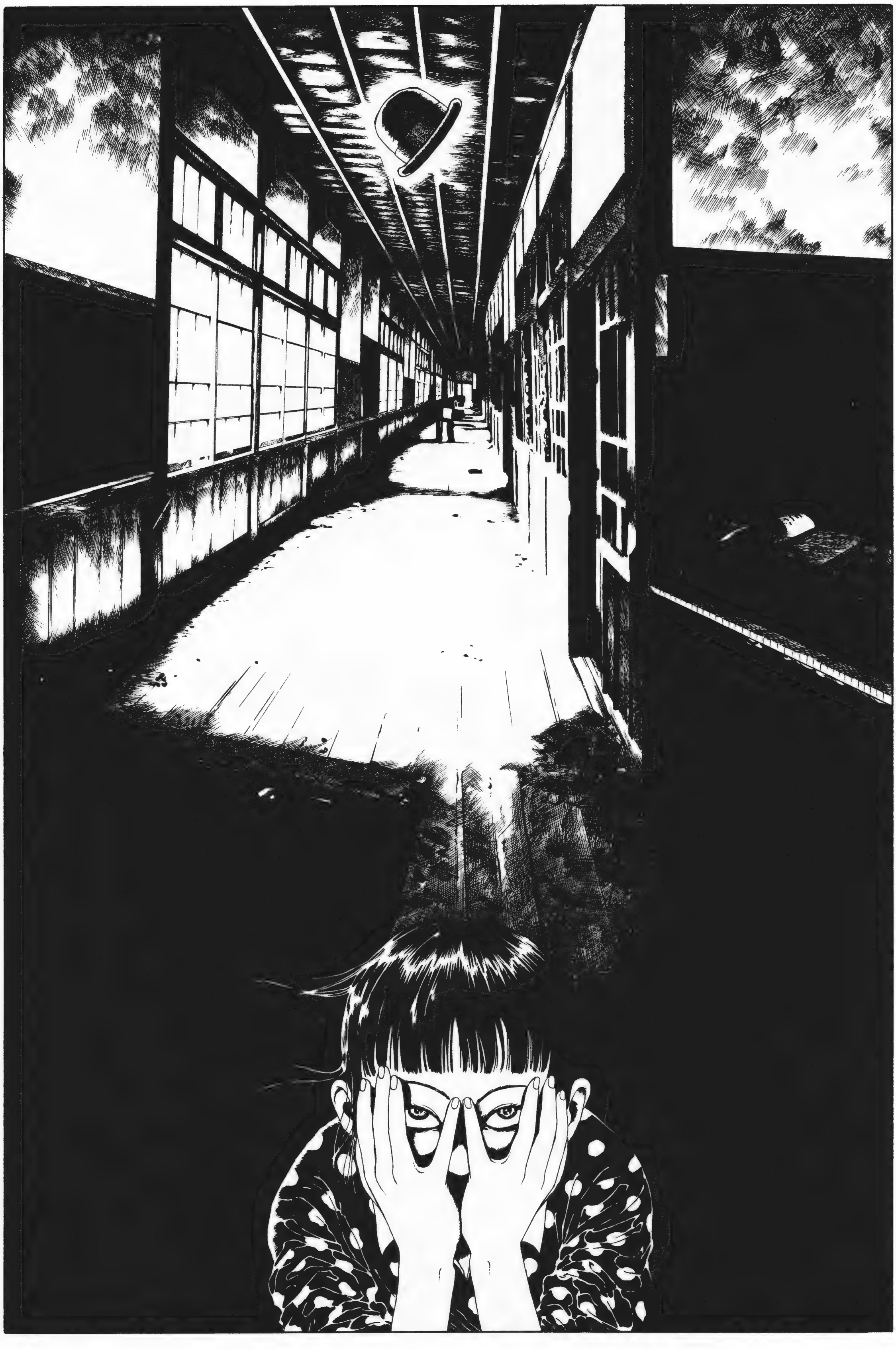

ばけものぉぉ!!
MONSTERS!!

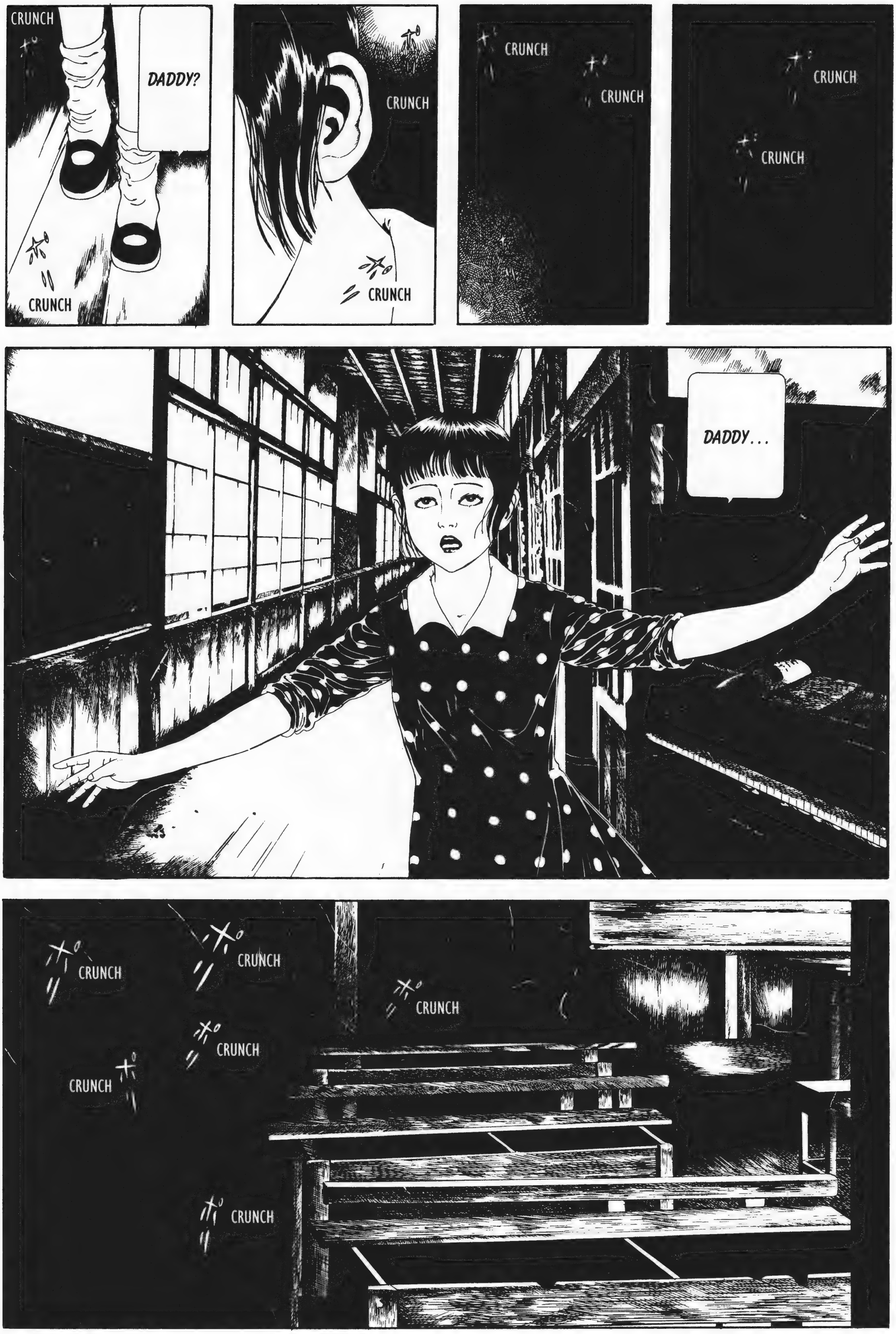
ALL I WANT IS TO GO ON A FIELD TRIP . . .

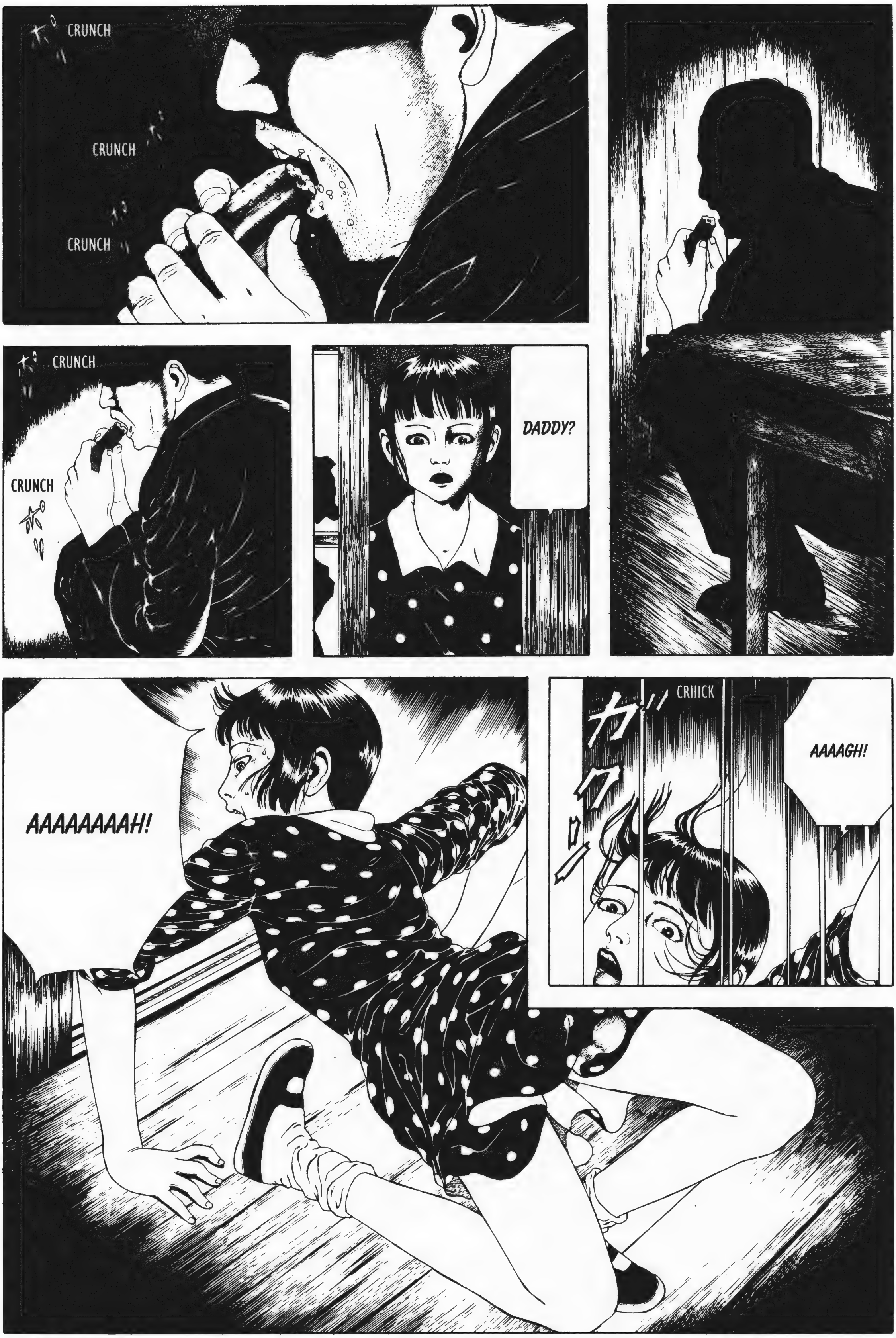
CHAPTER THREE

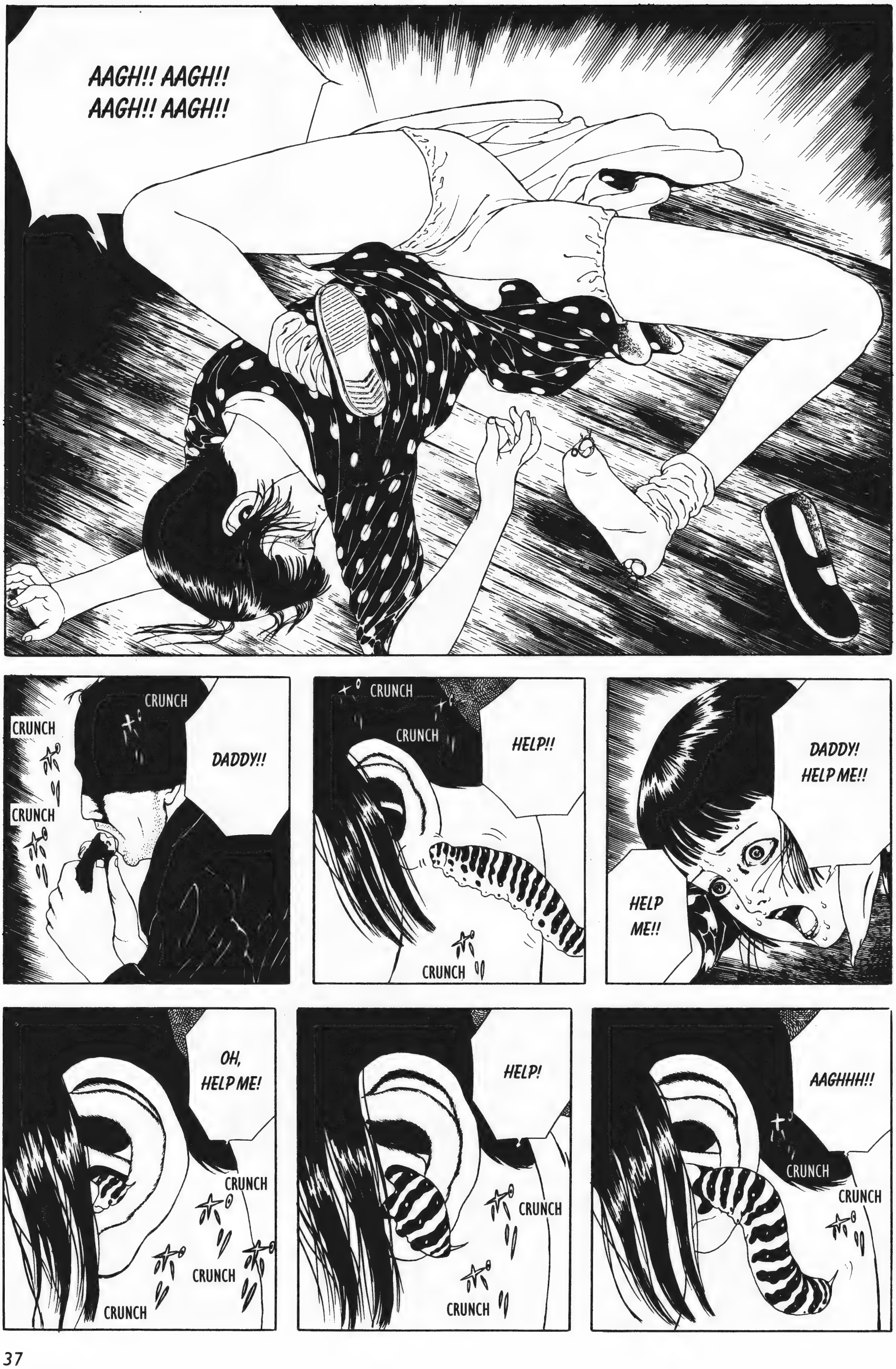
OUT OF THE BLUE

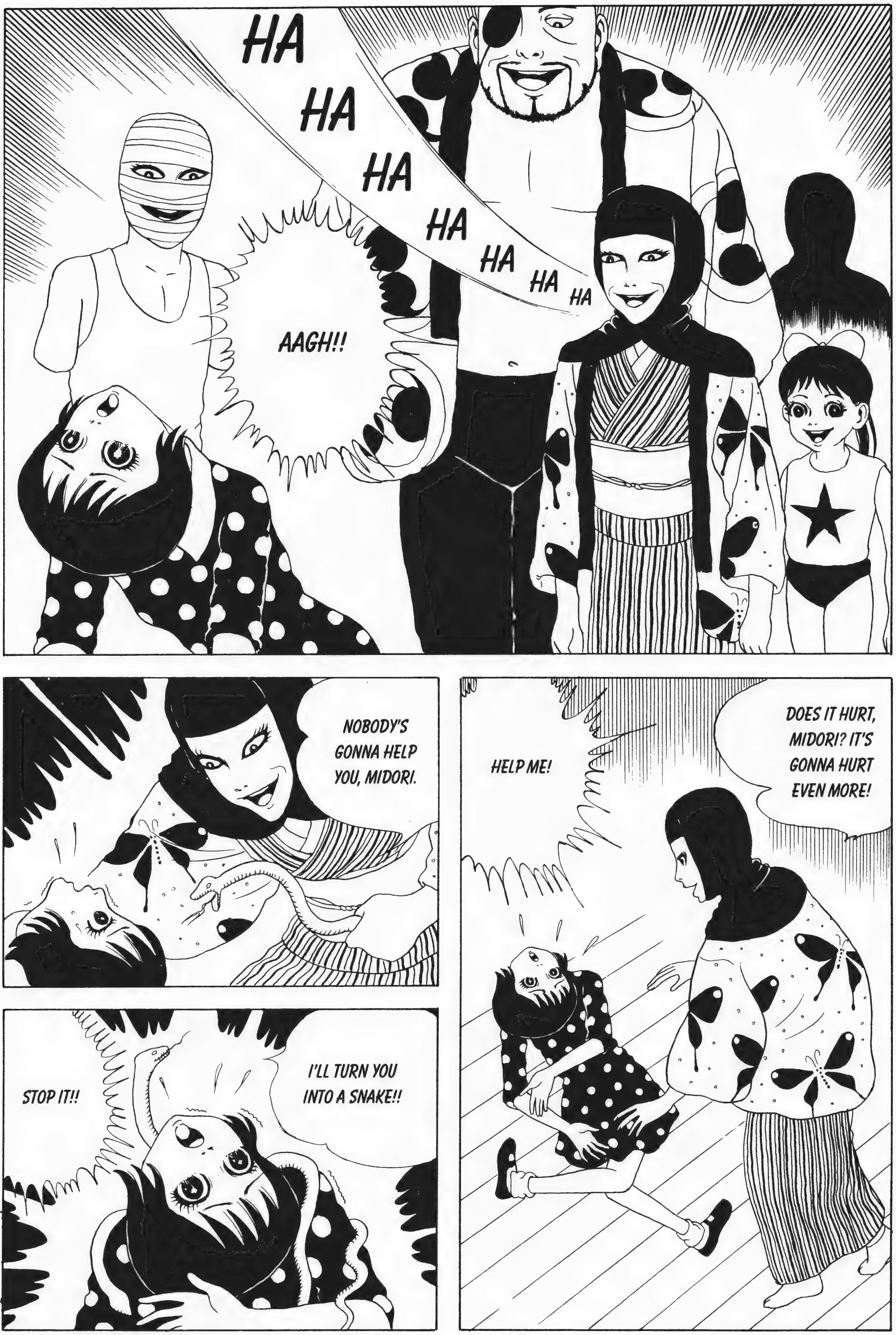


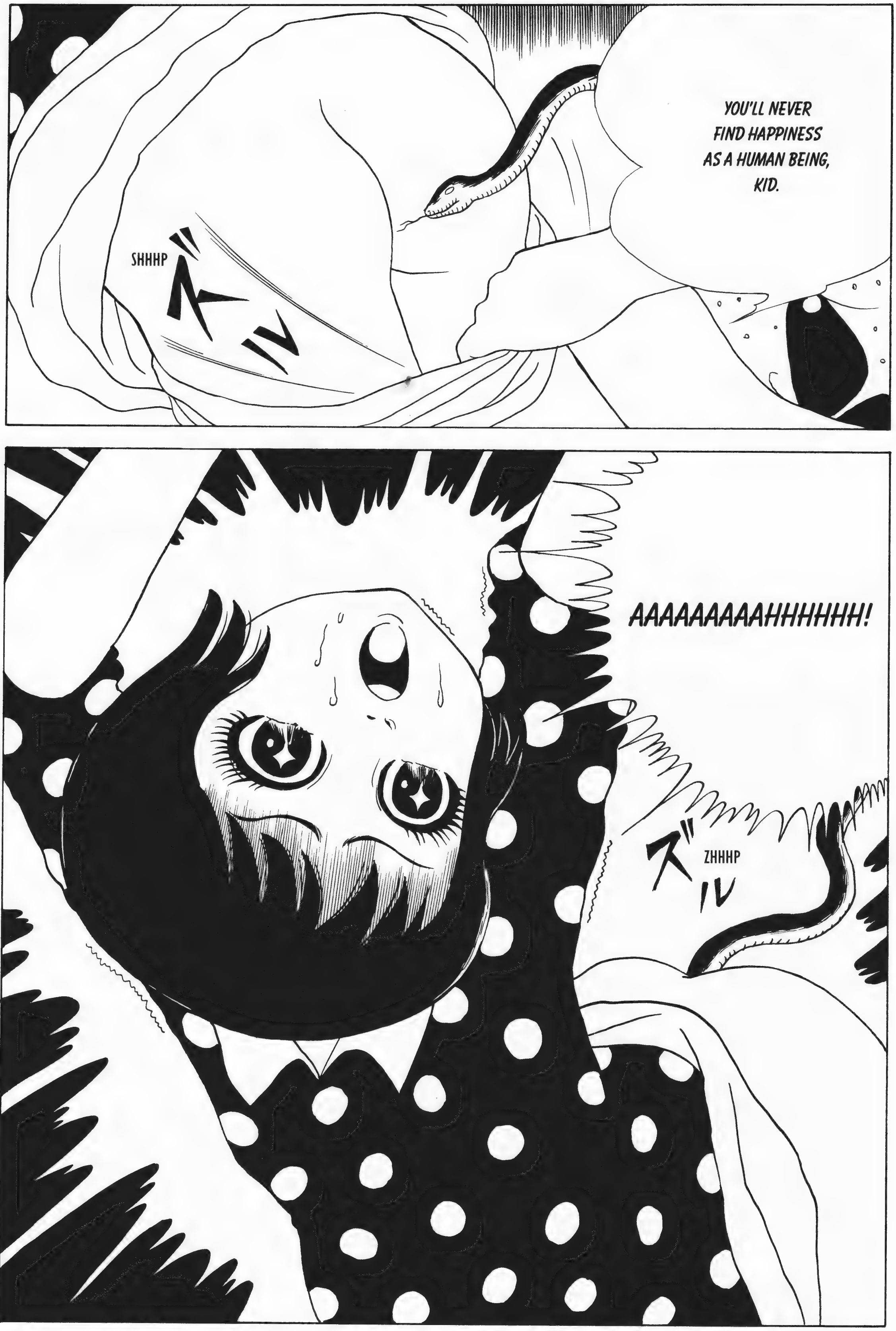


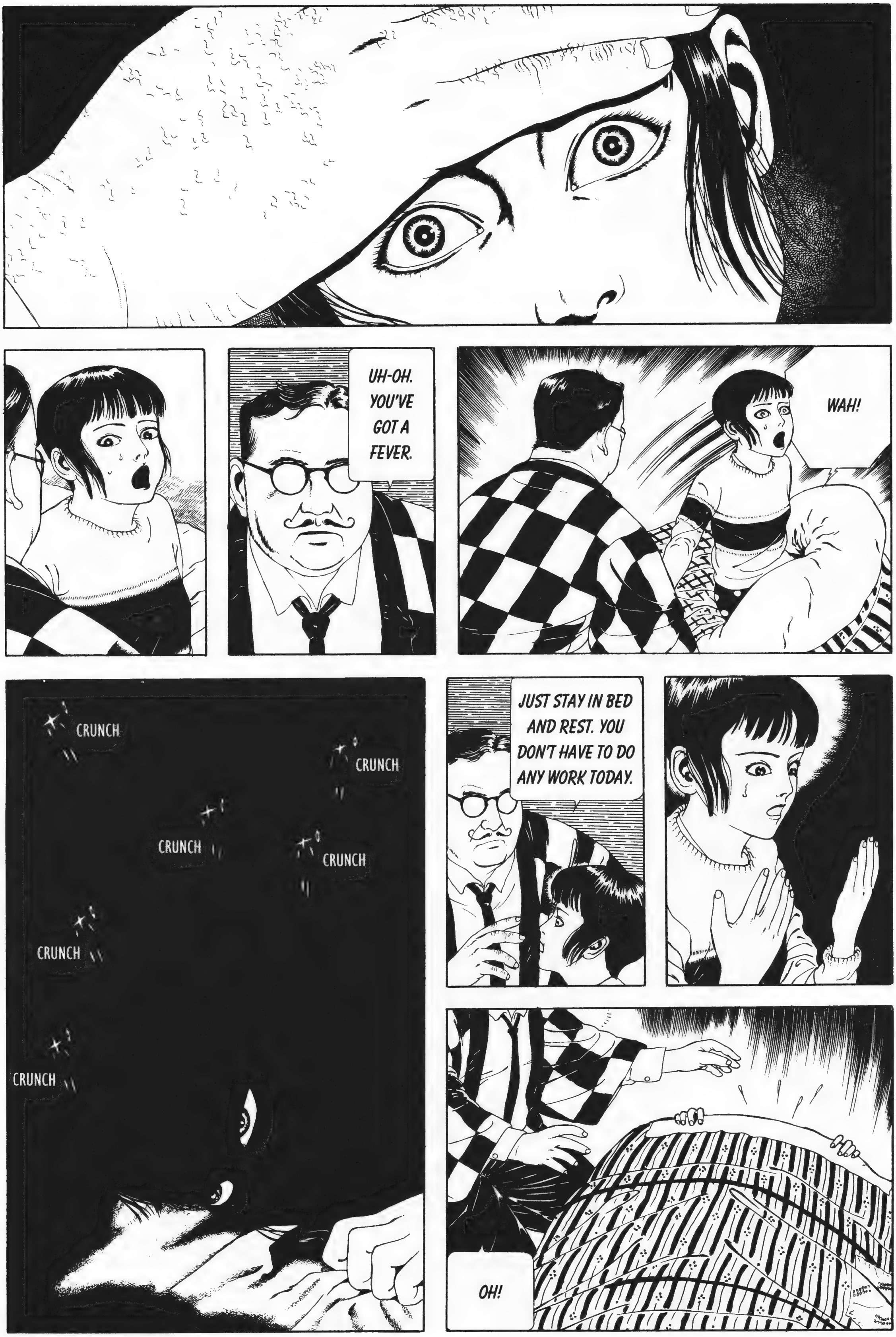

CRUNCH
DADDY?
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
DADDY...
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH

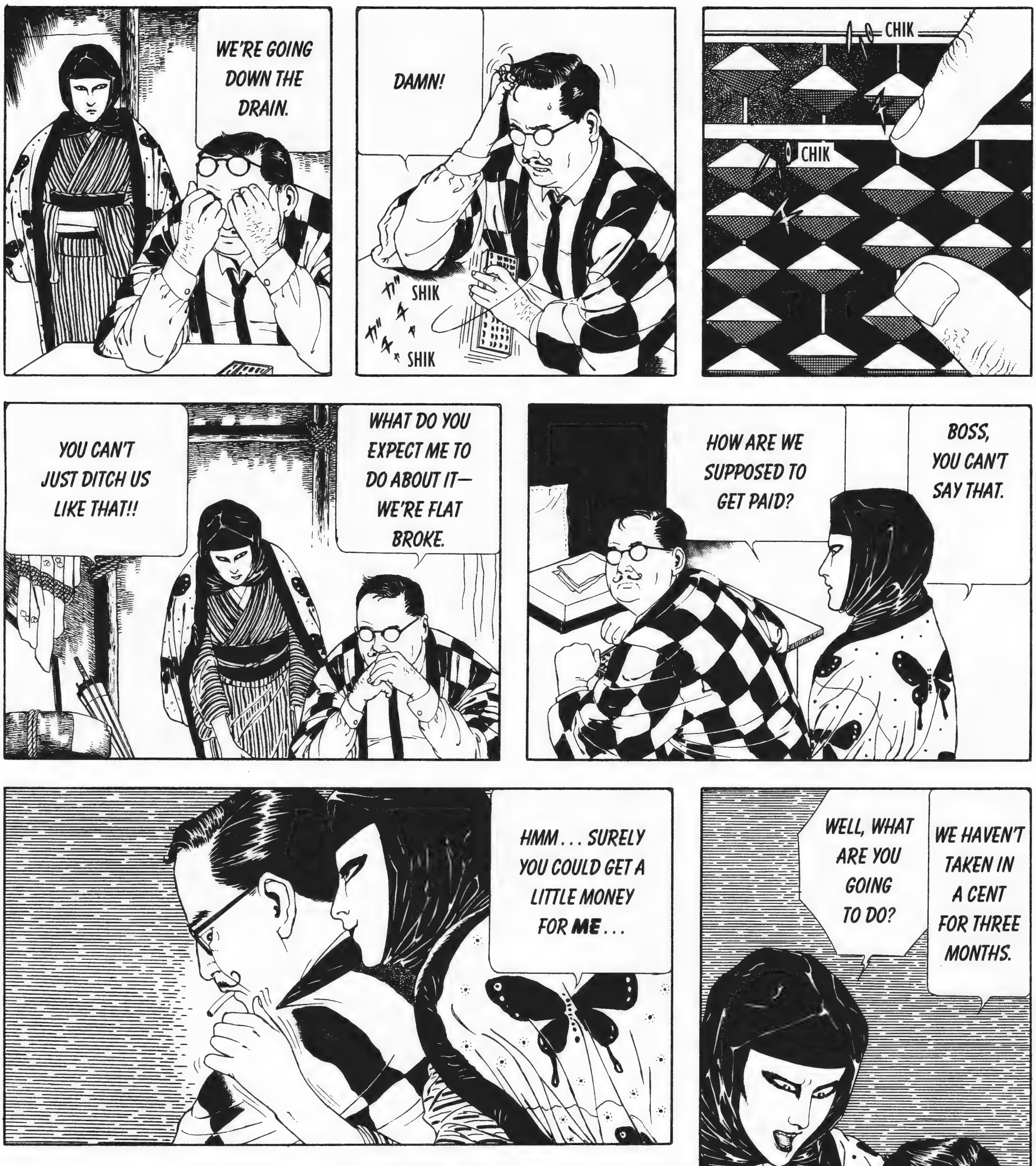

CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
DADDY?
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRIIICK
カクッ
AAAAGH!
AAAAAAAAH!

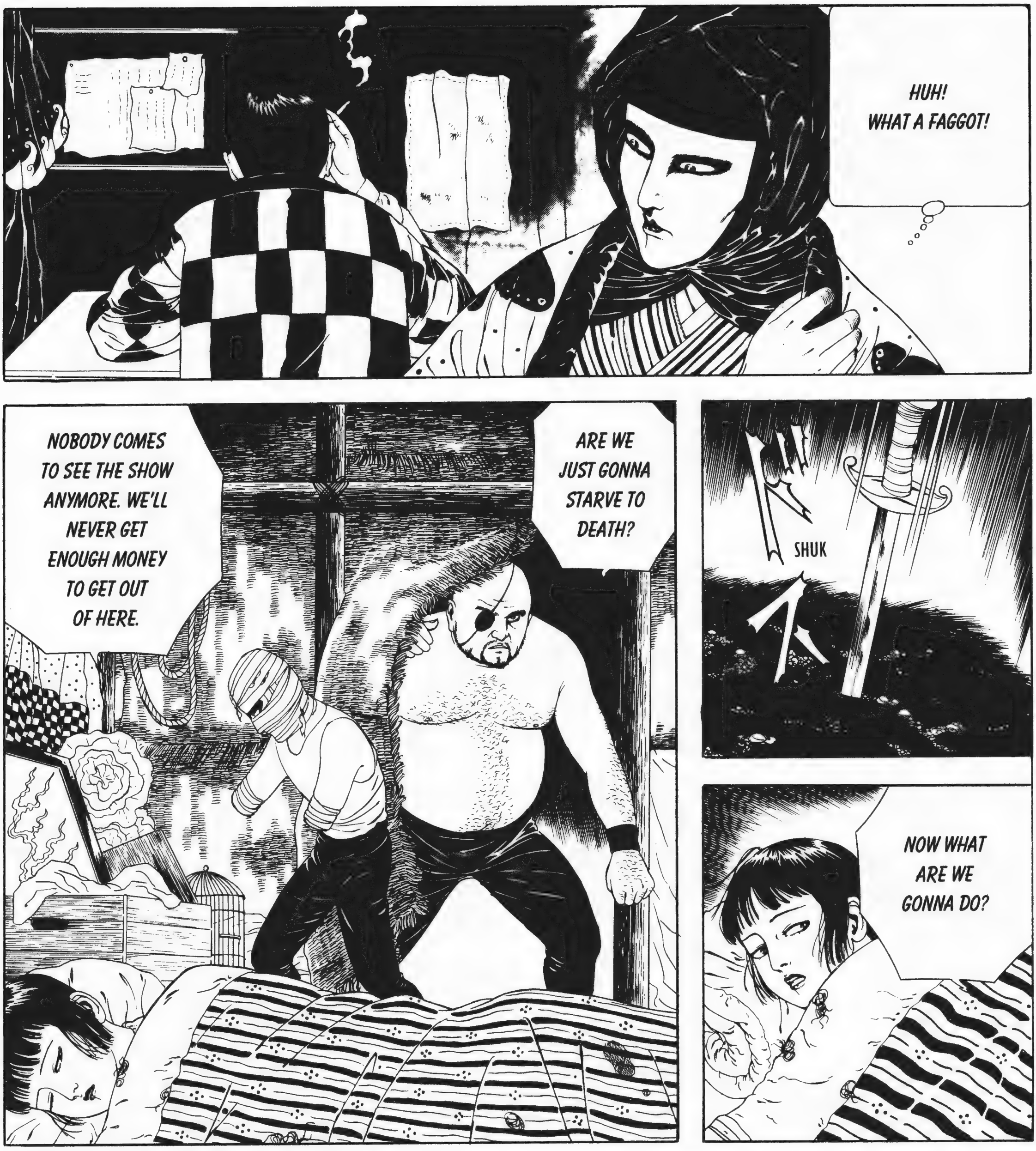

AAGH!! AAGH!! AAGH!! AAGH!!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
DADDY!!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
HELP!!
CRUNCH
DADDY! HELP ME!!
HELP ME!!
OH, HELP ME!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
HELP!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
AAGHHH!!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH

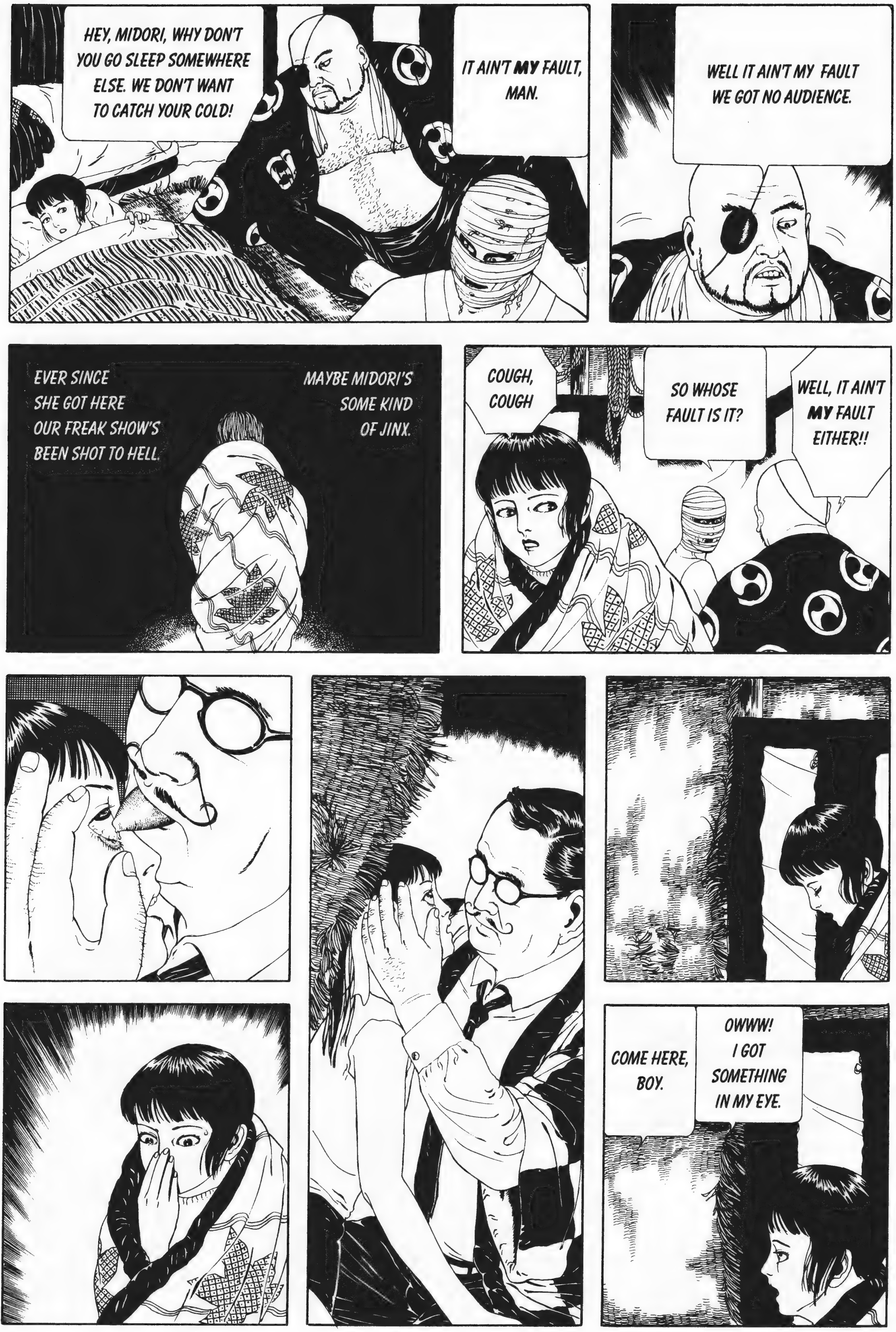

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
AAGH!!
HELP ME!
DOES IT HURT, MIDORI? IT'S GONNA HURT EVEN MORE!
NOBODY'S GONNA HELP YOU, MIDORI.
STOP IT!!
I'LL TURN YOU INTO A SNAKE!!

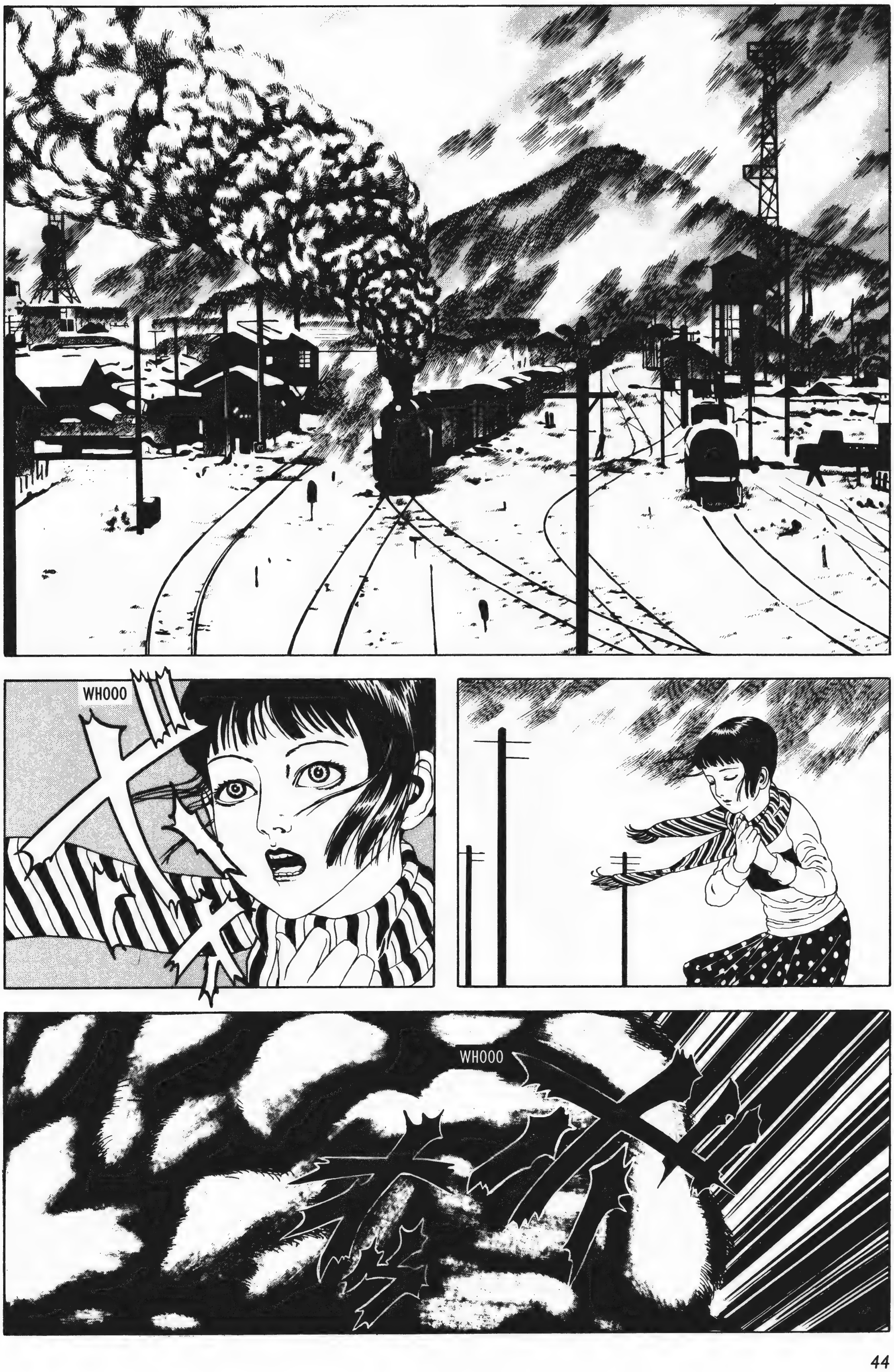

YOU'LL NEVER FIND HAPPINESS AS A HUMAN BEING, KID.
SHHHP
AAAAAAAAAHHHHHH!
ズル
ZHHHP

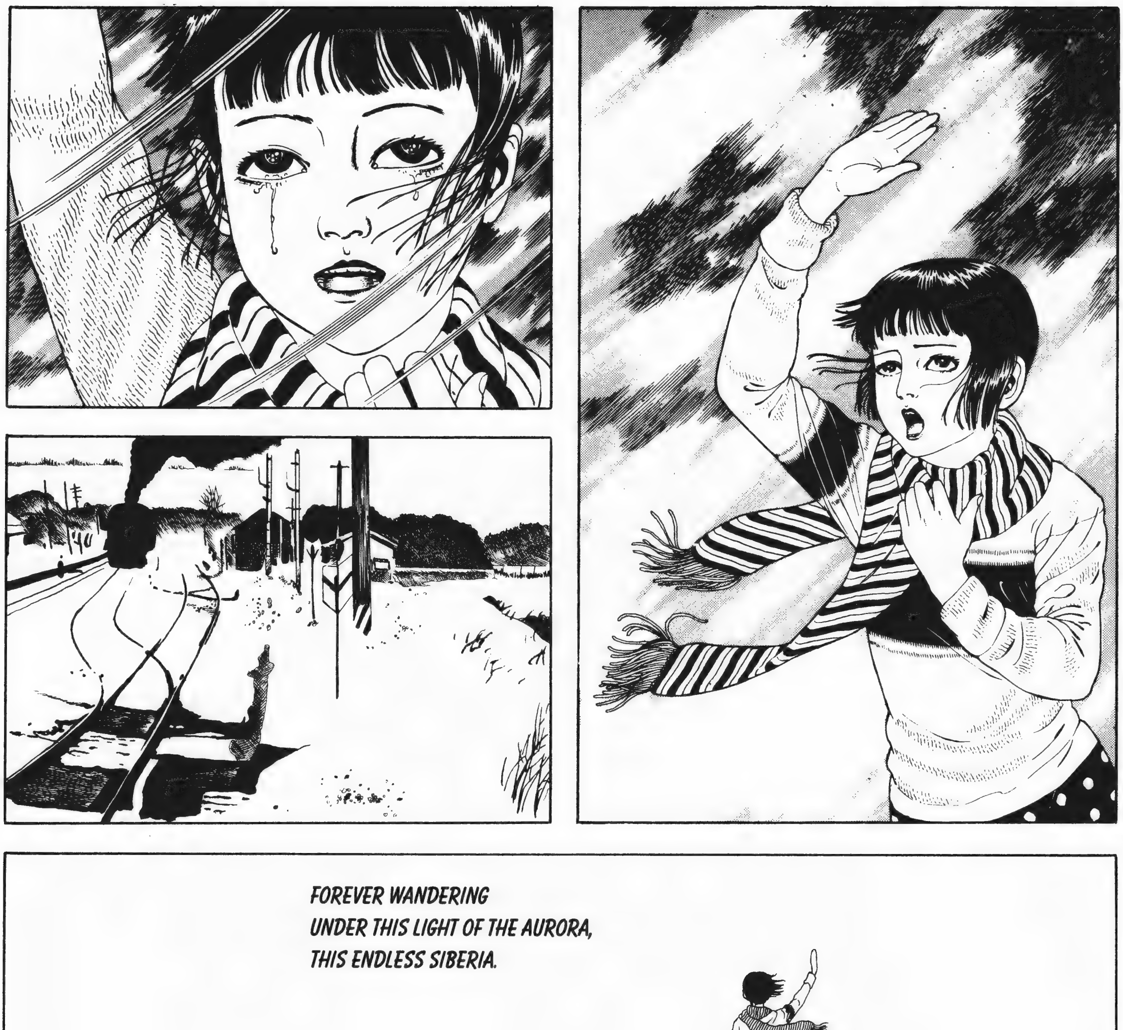

UH-OH. YOU'VE GOT A FEVER.
WAH!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
JUST STAY IN BED AND REST. YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANY WORK TODAY.
OH!

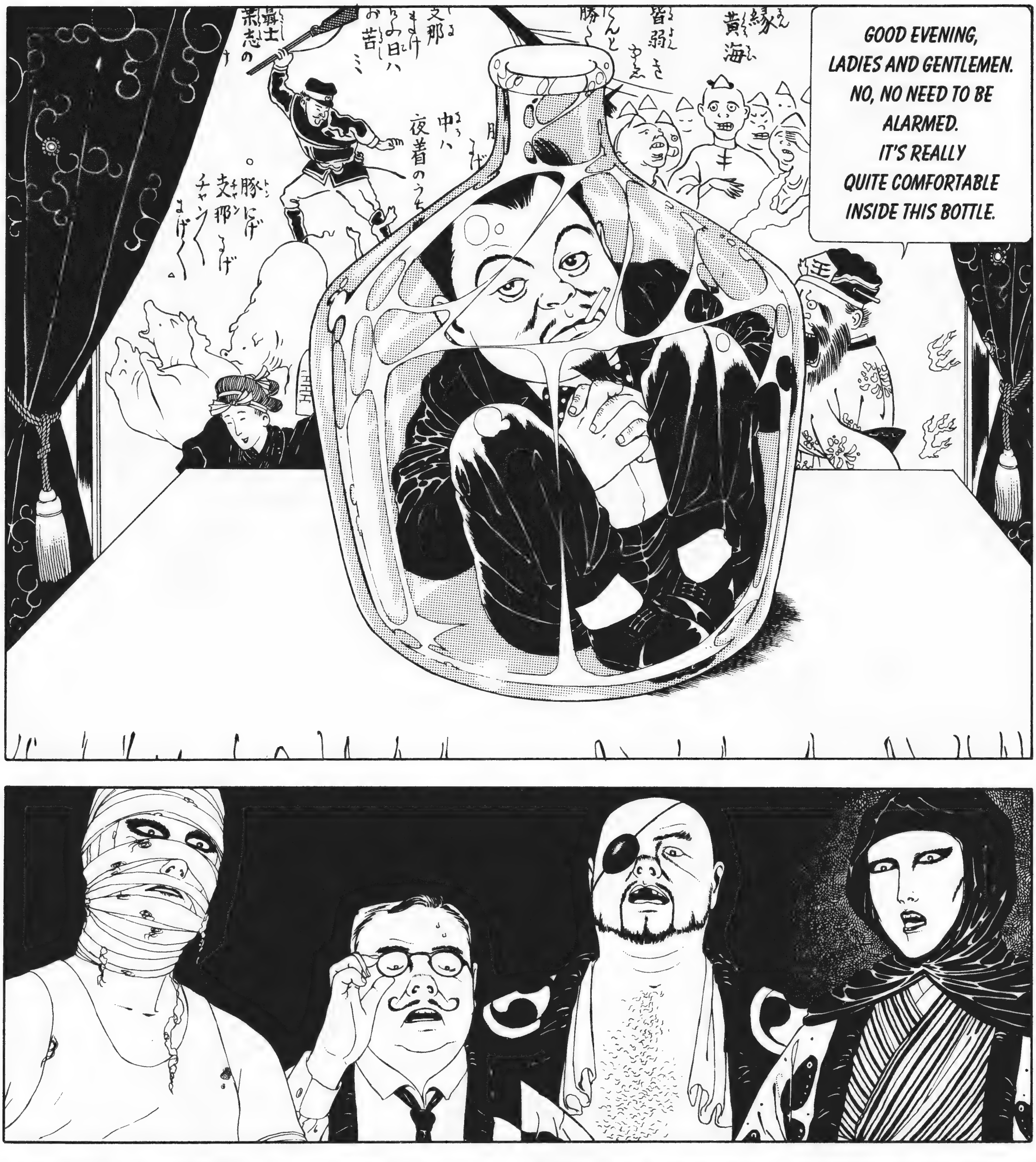

WE'RE GOING DOWN THE DRAIN.
DAMN!
ガチャ
SHIK
ガチャ
SHIK
CHIK
CHIK
YOU CAN'T JUST DITCH US LIKE THAT!!
WHAT DO YOU EXPECT ME TO DO ABOUT IT— WE'RE FLAT BROKE.
HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO GET PAID?
BOSS, YOU CAN'T SAY THAT.
HMM . . . SURELY YOU COULD GET A LITTLE MONEY FOR **ME** . . .
WELL, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
WE HAVEN'T TAKEN IN A CENT FOR THREE MONTHS.
A LITTLE MONEY WOULD BE SO NICE . . .

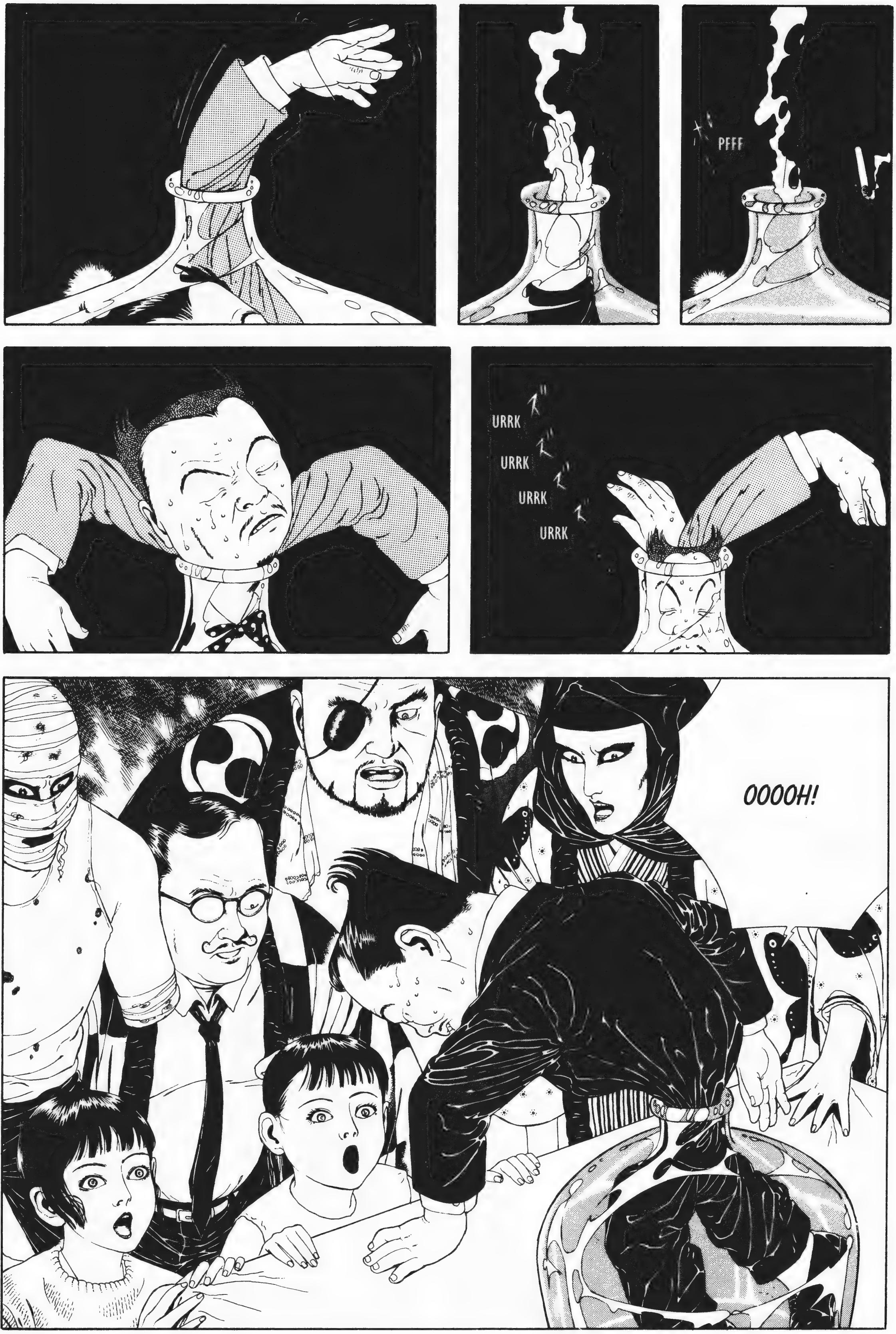

HUH!
WHAT A FAGGOT!
SHUK
NOW WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?
ARE WE JUST GONNA STARVE TO DEATH?
NOBODY COMES TO SEE THE SHOW ANYMORE. WE'LL NEVER GET ENOUGH MONEY TO GET OUT OF HERE.
I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO GET SOME WORK DIGGING DITCHES.
WE'RE REALLY SCREWED!
I HEAR ARASHI'S FOUND SOME NEW GUY FOR THE SHOW.
THEY SAY HE USES WESTERN MAGIC.
HE'S A FOOL TO JOIN THIS LOUSY CARNY ACT.

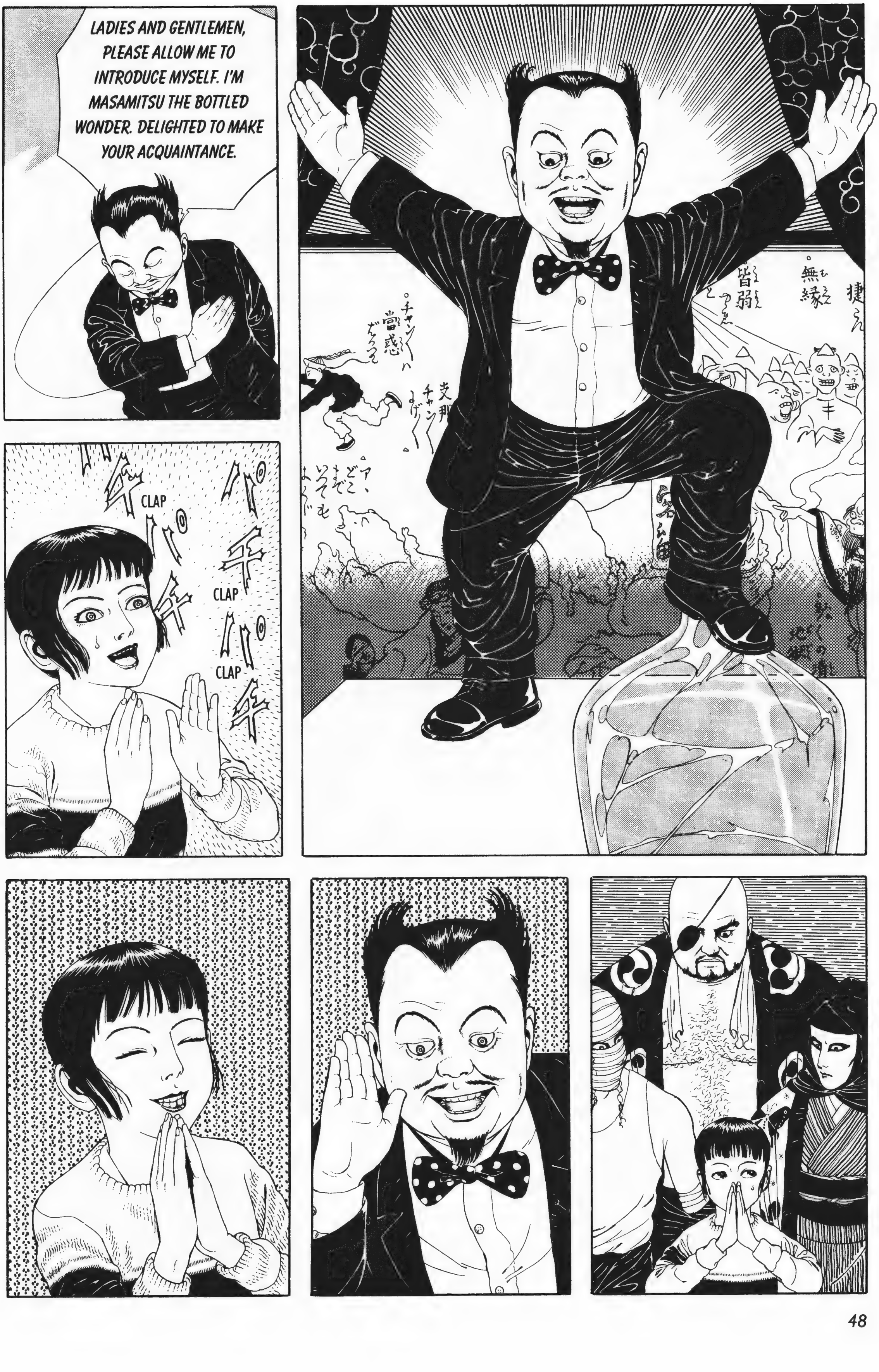

HEY, MIDORI, WHY DON'T YOU GO SLEEP SOMEWHERE ELSE. WE DON'T WANT TO CATCH YOUR COLD!
IT AIN'T **MY** FAULT, MAN.
WELL IT AIN'T MY FAULT WE GOT NO AUDIENCE.
EVER SINCE SHE GOT HERE OUR FREAK SHOW'S BEEN SHOT TO HELL.
MAYBE MIDORI'S SOME KIND OF JINX.
COUGH, COUGH
SO WHOSE FAULT IS IT?
WELL, IT AIN'T **MY** FAULT EITHER!!
COME HERE, BOY.
OWWW! I GOT SOMETHING IN MY EYE.

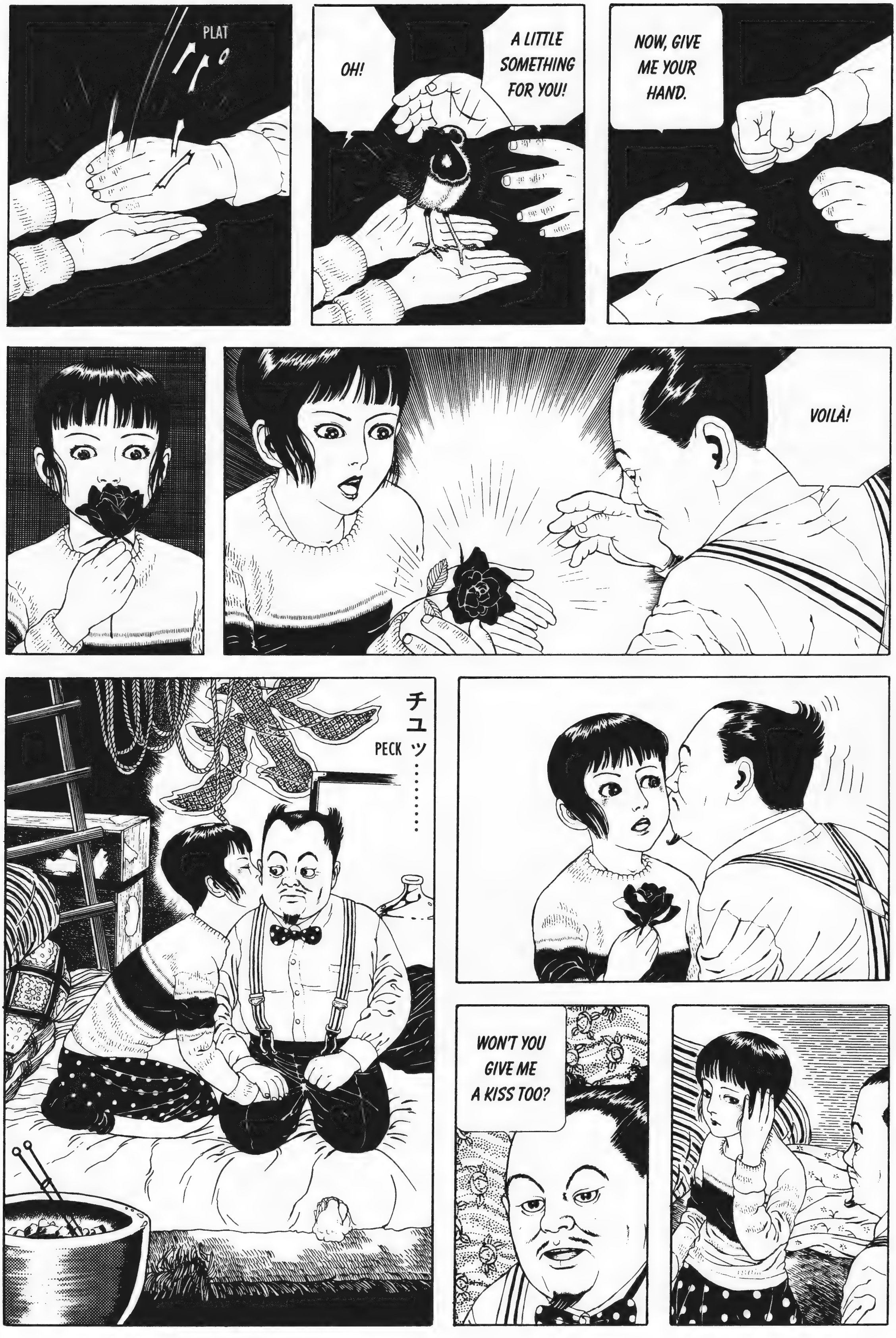

WHOOO
WHOOO

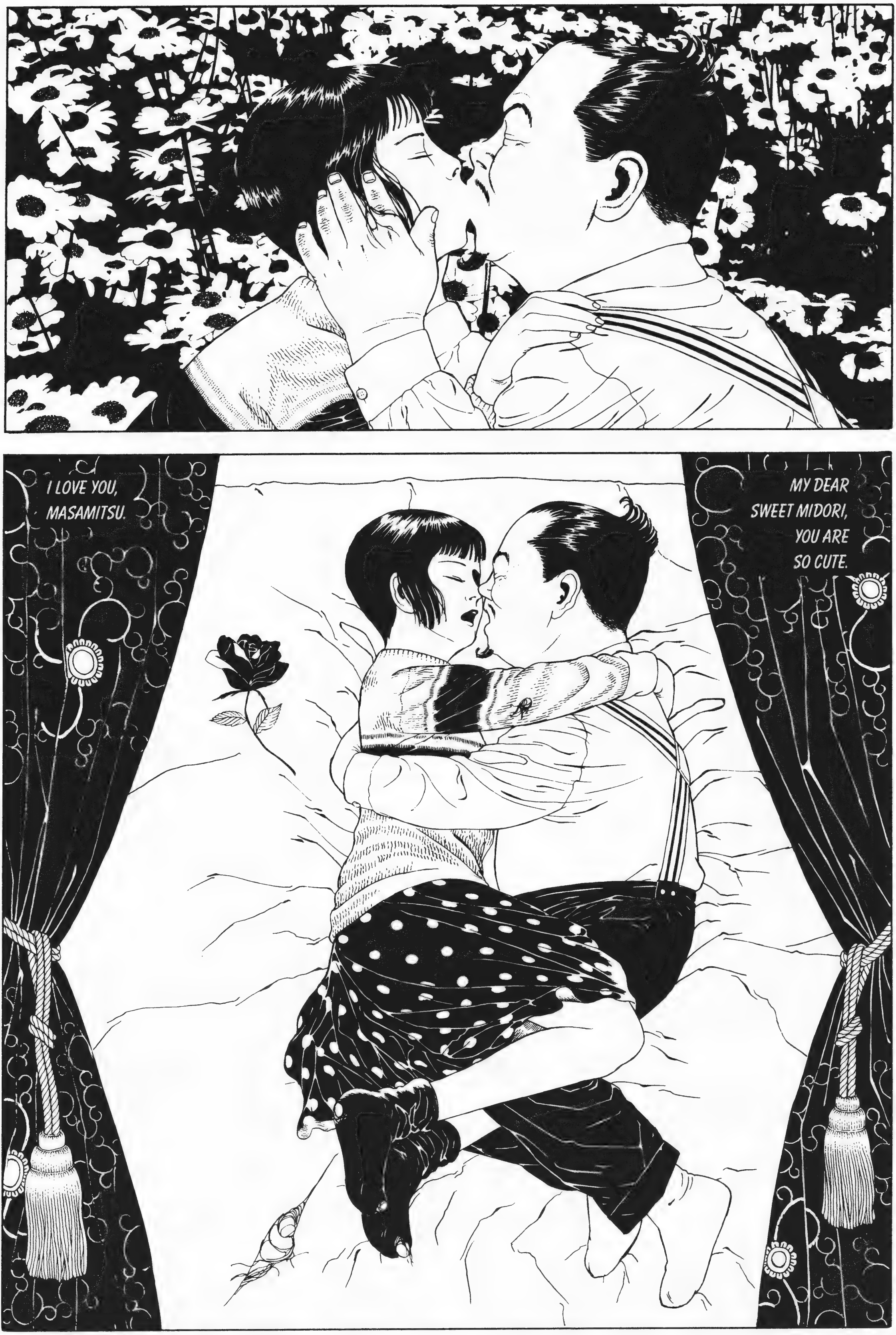

FOREVER WANDERING
UNDER THIS LIGHT OF THE AURORA,
THIS ENDLESS SIBERIA.


GOOD EVENING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. NO, NO NEED TO BE ALARMED. IT'S REALLY QUITE COMFORTABLE INSIDE THIS BOTTLE.
黄海
皆弱き
支那まけ
中ハ
夜着のうち
豚にげ
支那まげ
チャン〳〵
まげ〳〵


PFFF
URRK
URRK
URRK
URRK
ズ
ズ
ズ
ズ
OOOOH!

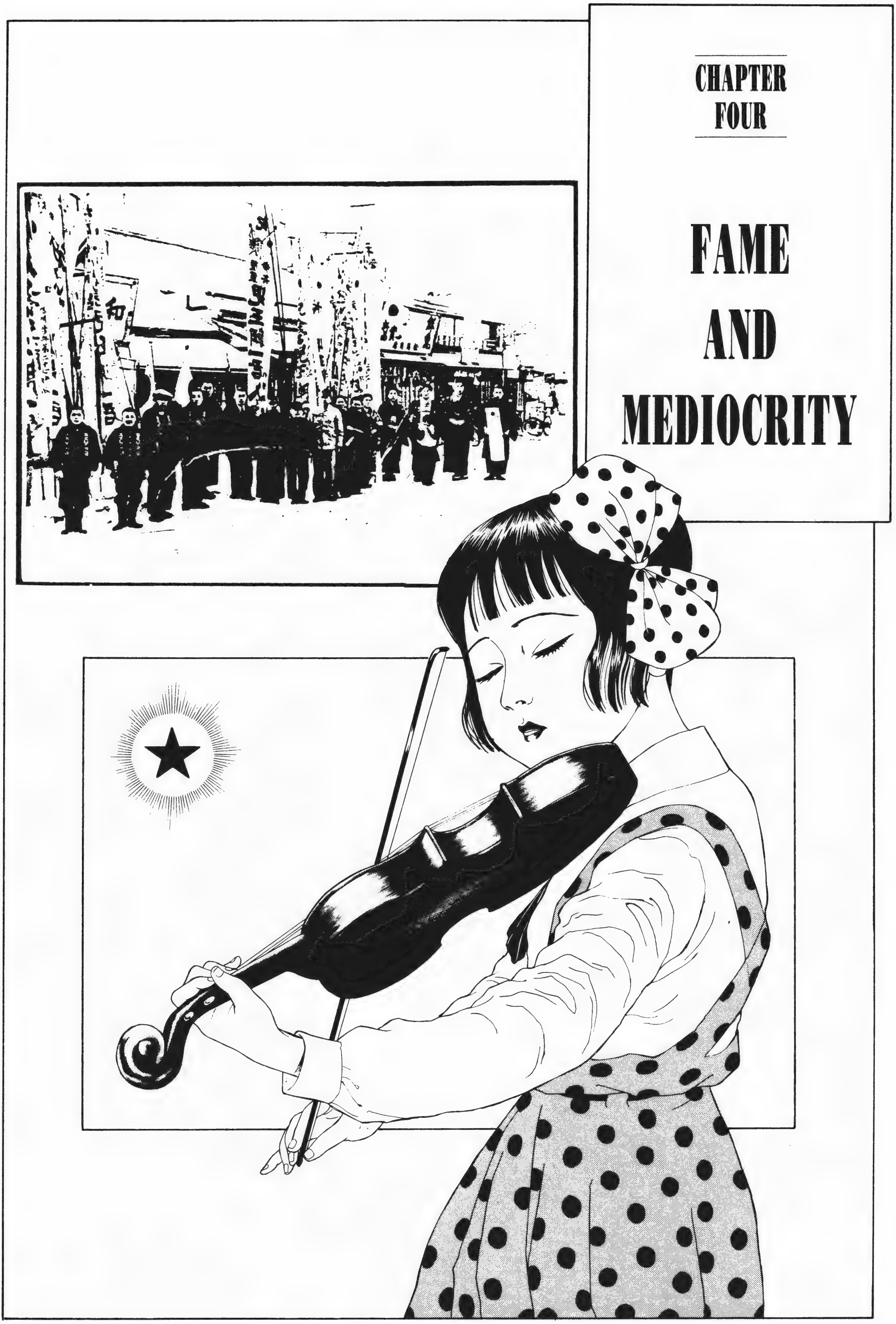

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, PLEASE ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF. I'M MASAMITSU THE BOTTLED WONDER. DELIGHTED TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE.
捷え
無縁
皆弱と
支那チャンくよげく
チャンくハ當惑だらうぞ
パチパチ
CLAP
パチパチ
CLAP
CLAP

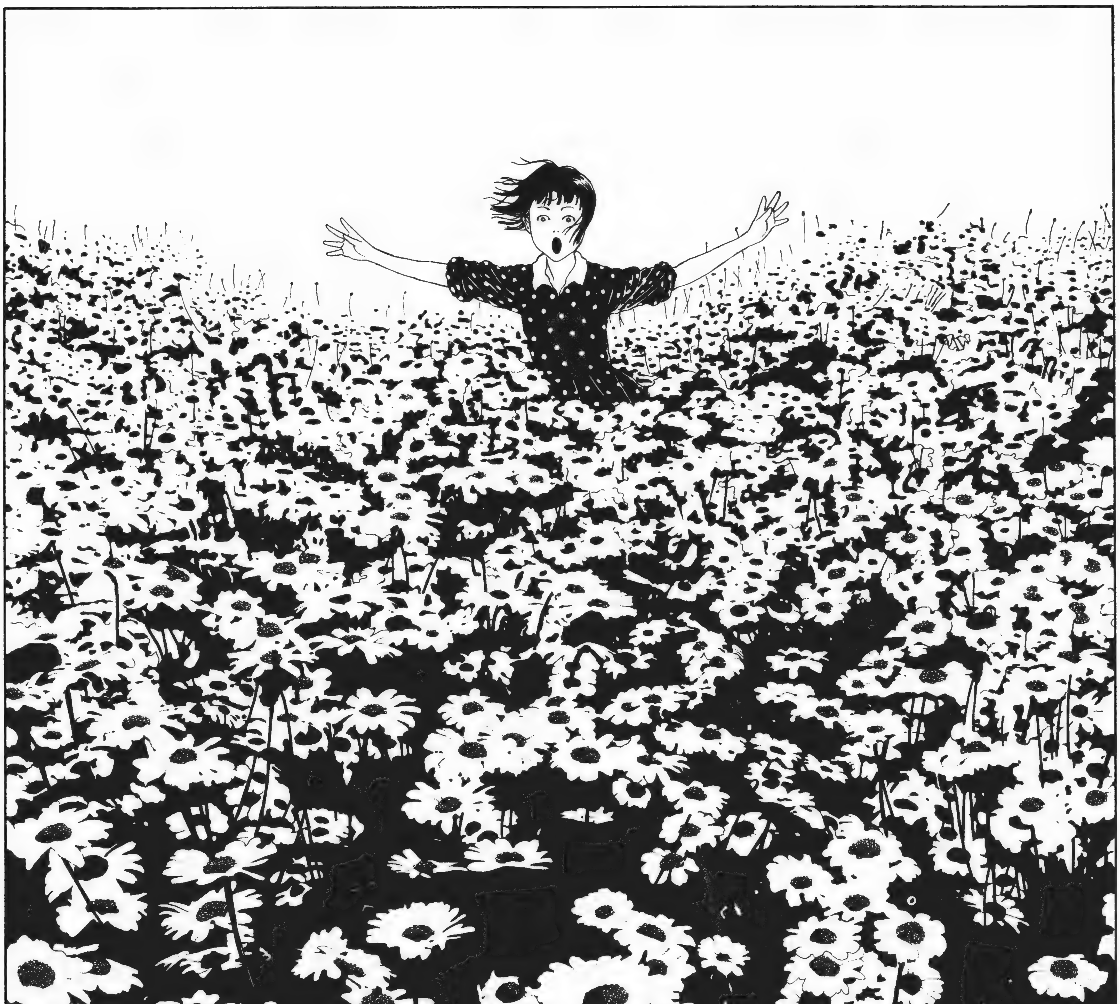

NOW, GIVE ME YOUR HAND.
A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR YOU!
OH!
PLAT
VOILÀ!
WON'T YOU GIVE ME A KISS TOO?
チュッ……
PECK

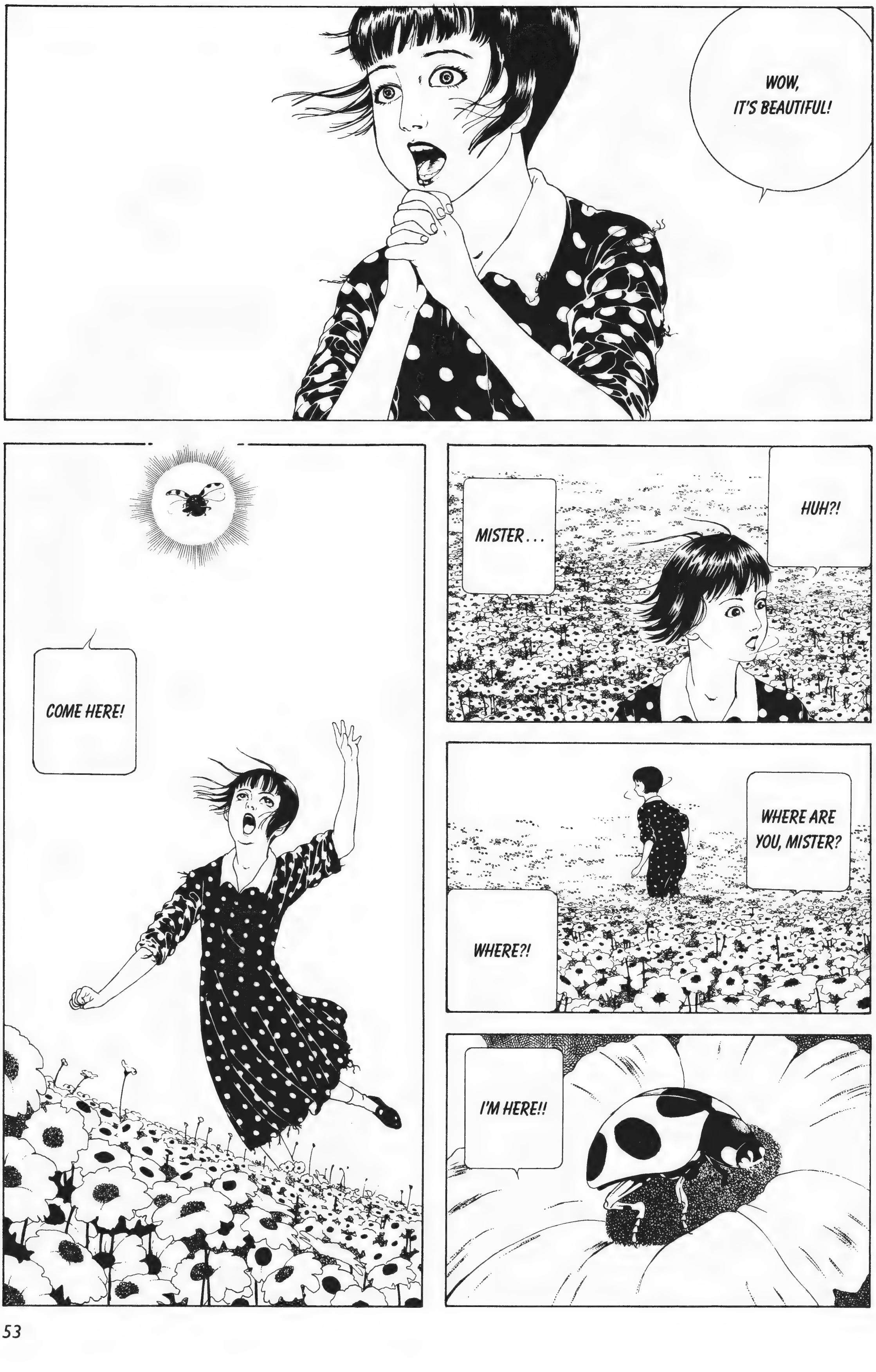

I LOVE YOU, MASAMITSU.
MY DEAR SWEET MIDORI, YOU ARE SO CUTE.

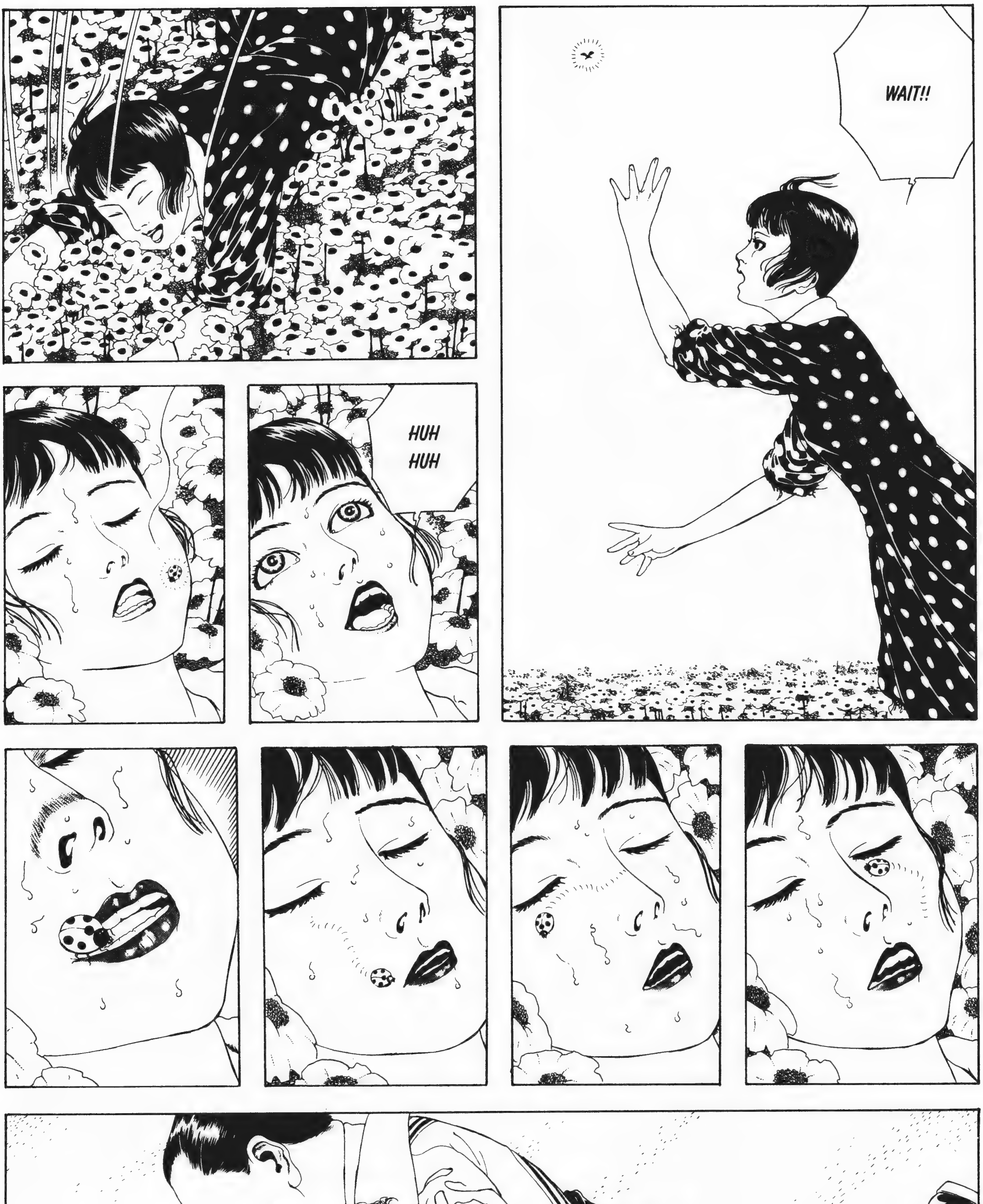
CHAPTER FOUR

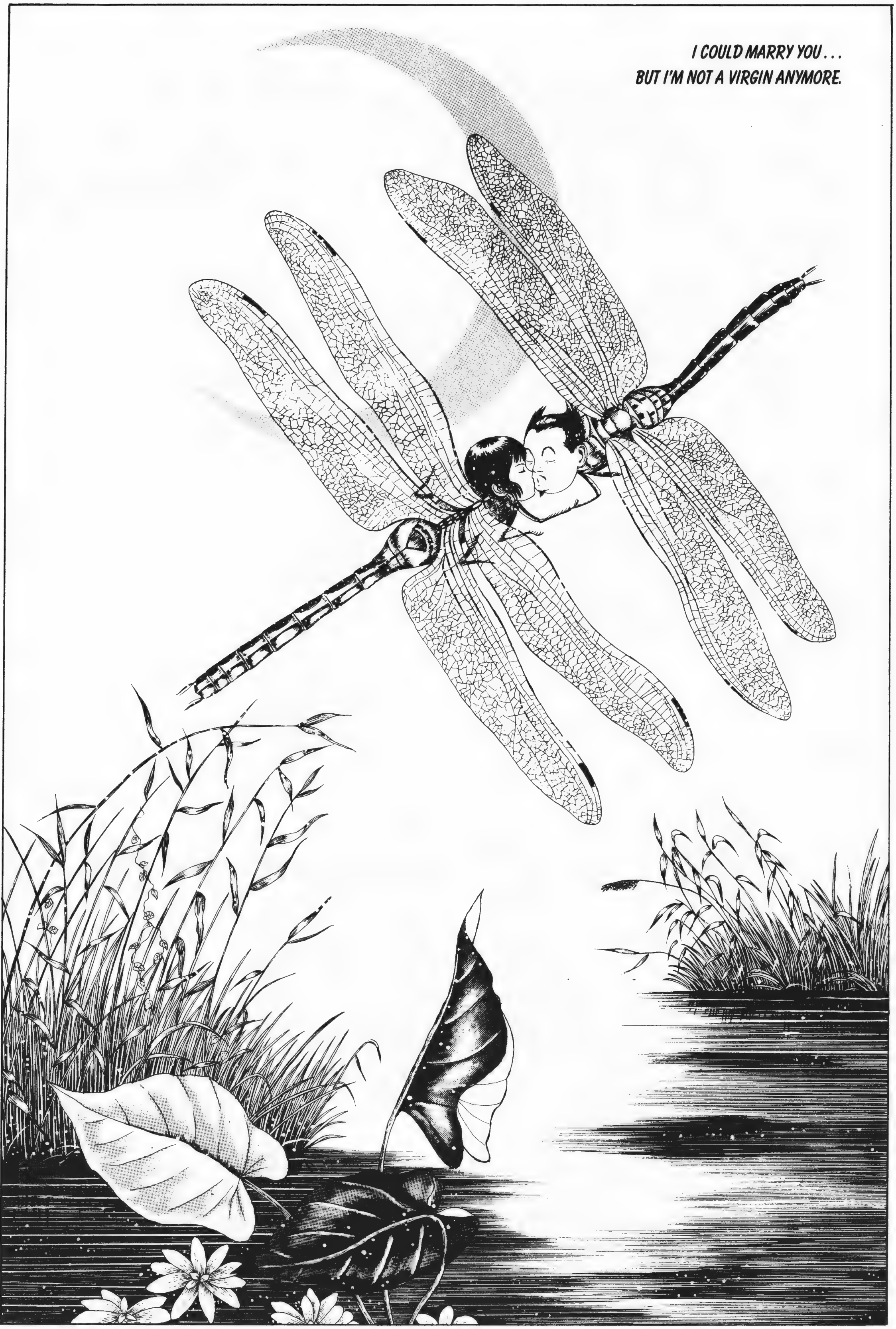
FAME AND MEDIOCRITY

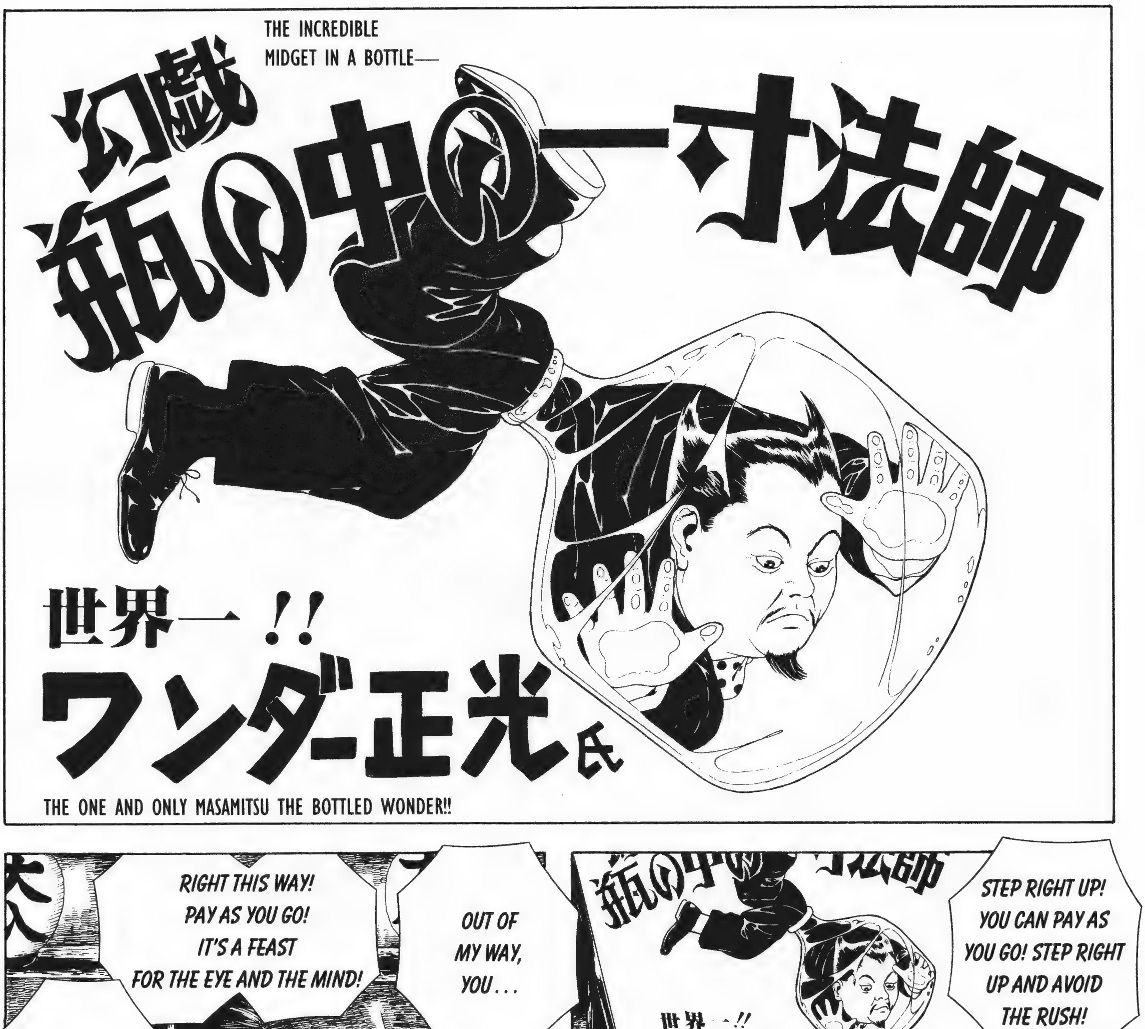


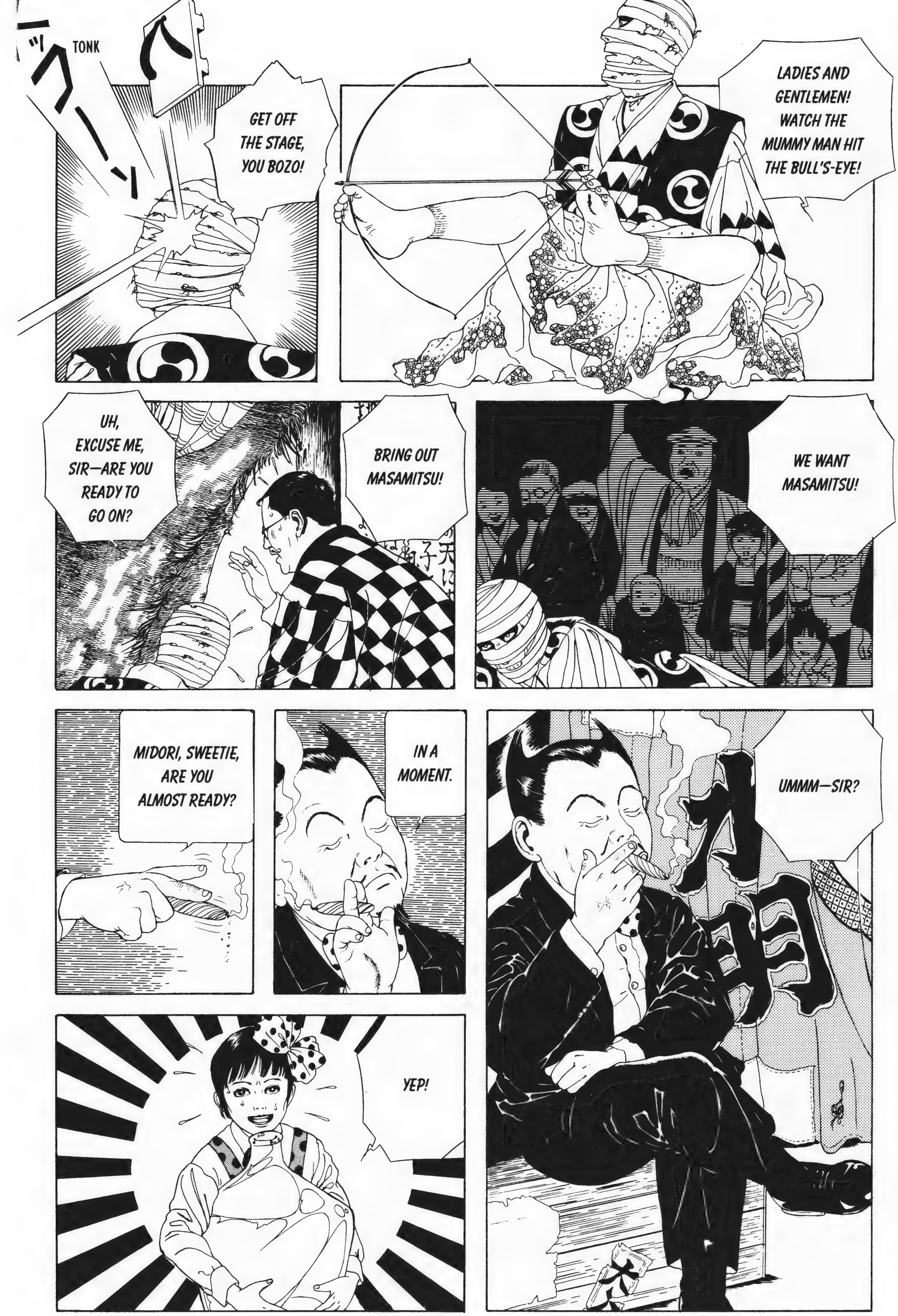


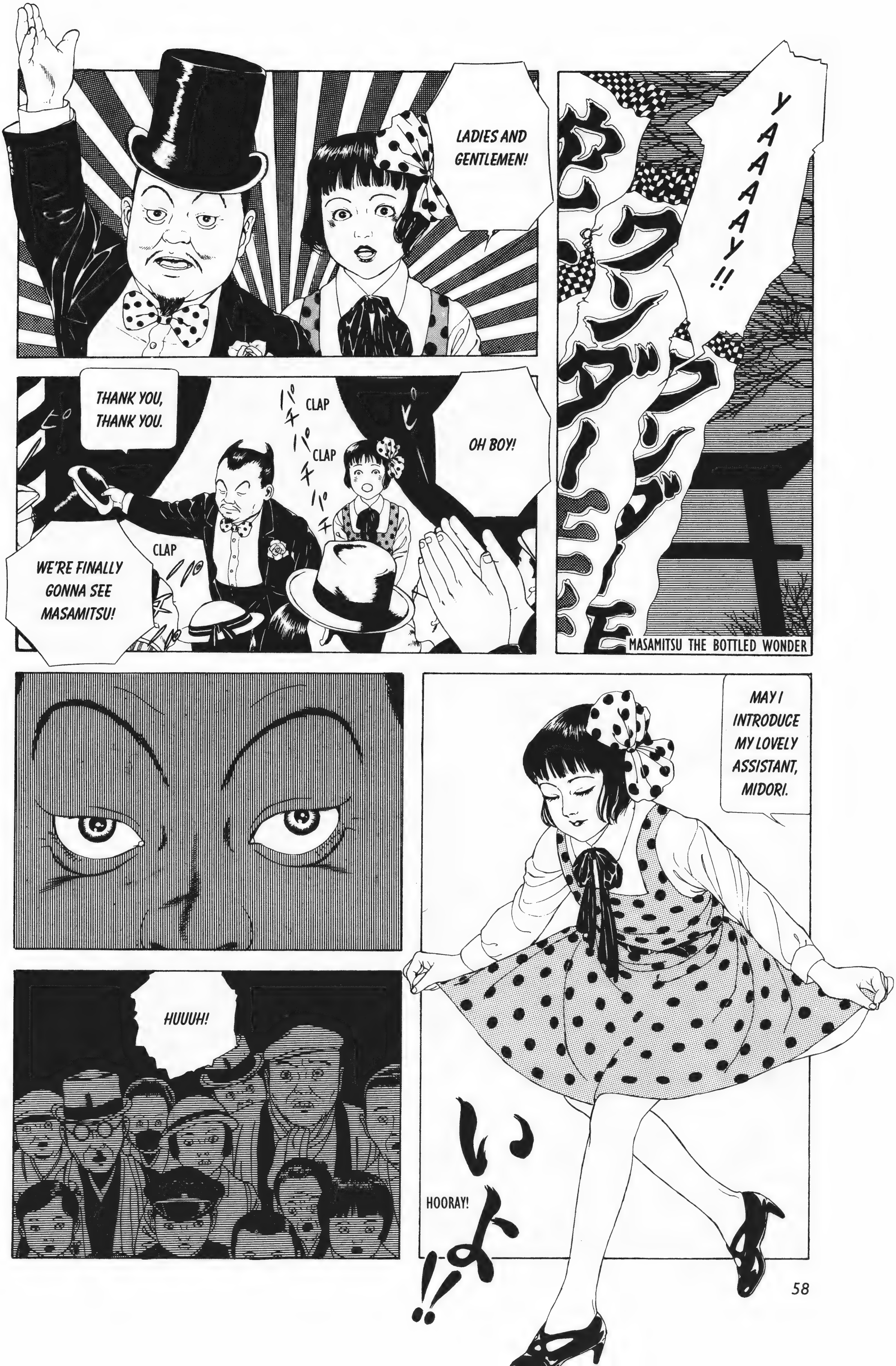

WOW,
IT'S BEAUTIFUL!
COME HERE!
MISTER . . .
HUH?!
WHERE ARE YOU, MISTER?
WHERE?!
I'M HERE!!

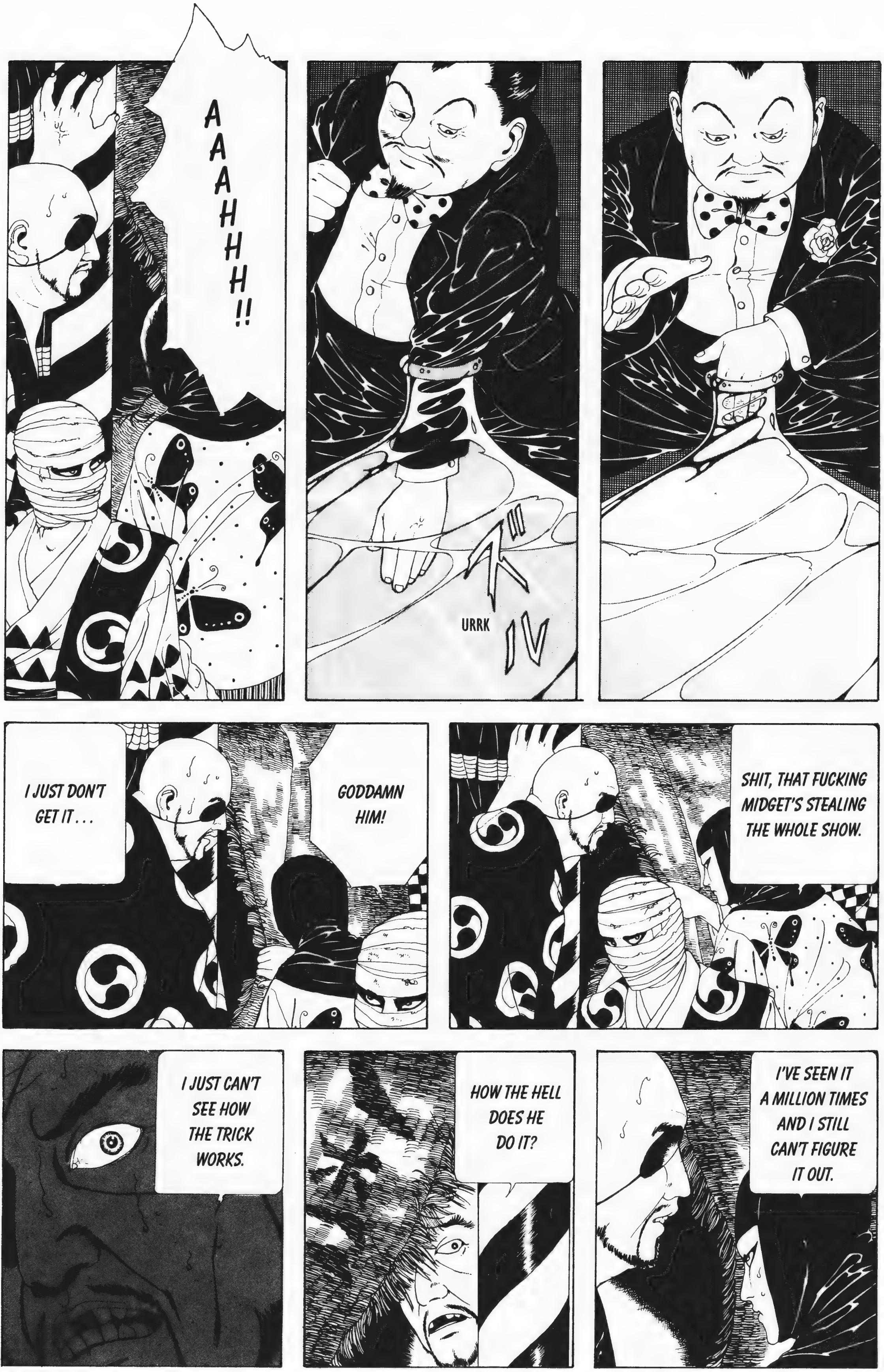

WAIT!!
HUH HUH

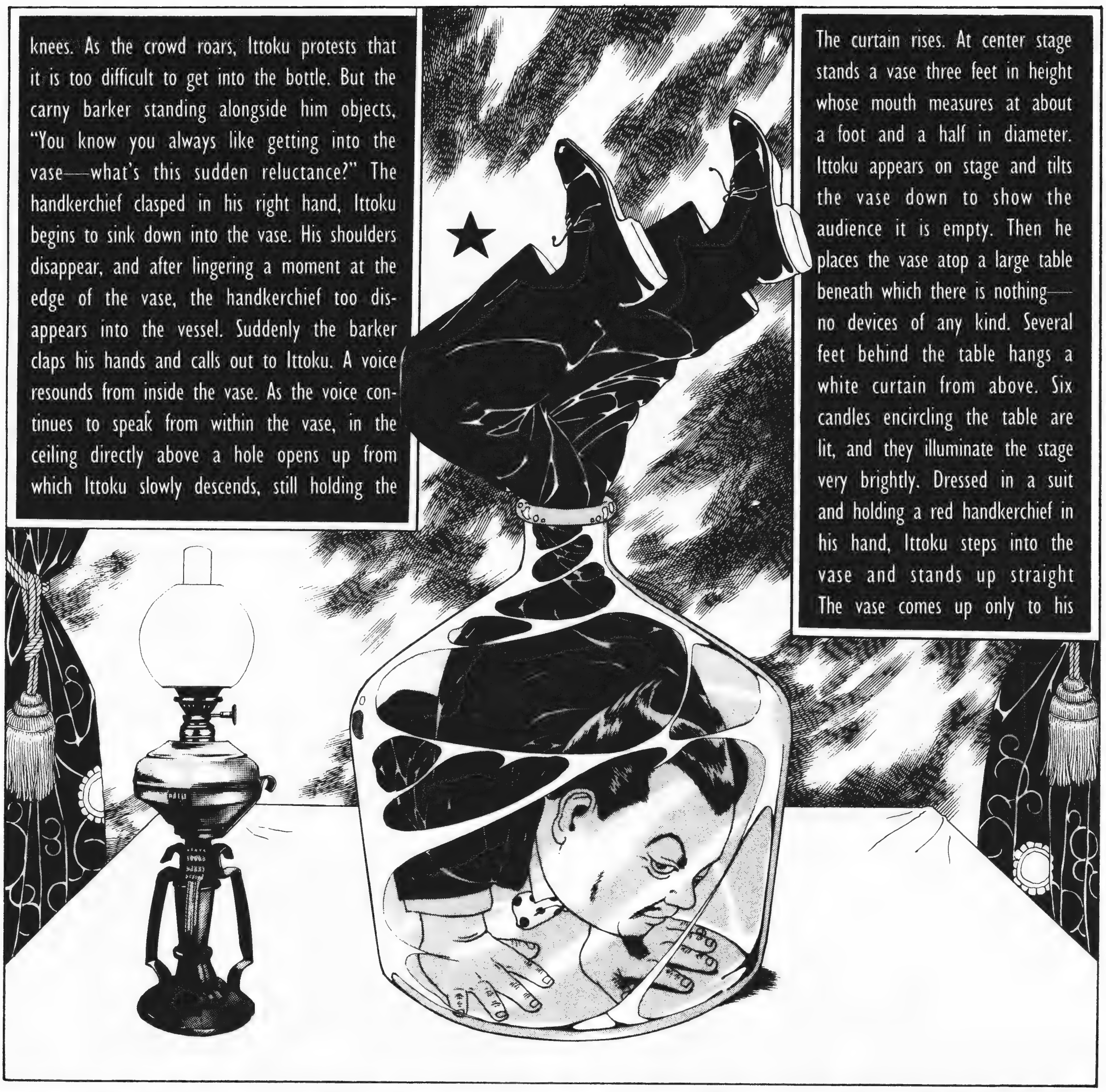

I COULD MARRY YOU . . .
BUT I'M NOT A VIRGIN ANYMORE.


THE INCREDIBLE MIDGET IN A BOTTLE——
幻戯
瓶の中の一寸法師
世界一!!
ワンダー正光氏
THE ONE AND ONLY MASAMITSU THE BOTTLED WONDER!!
瓶の中の一寸法師
世界一!!
ワンダー正光氏
STEP RIGHT UP! YOU CAN PAY AS YOU GO! STEP RIGHT UP AND AVOID THE RUSH!
BOOM
BOOM
大入
大入
大入
HEY! DON'T PUSH ME!
OUT OF MY WAY, YOU . . .
RIGHT THIS WAY! PAY AS YOU GO! IT'S A FEAST FOR THE EYE AND THE MIND!
I WANNA SIT UP FRONT!
BOOM
YOU JERK— STOP PUSHING!

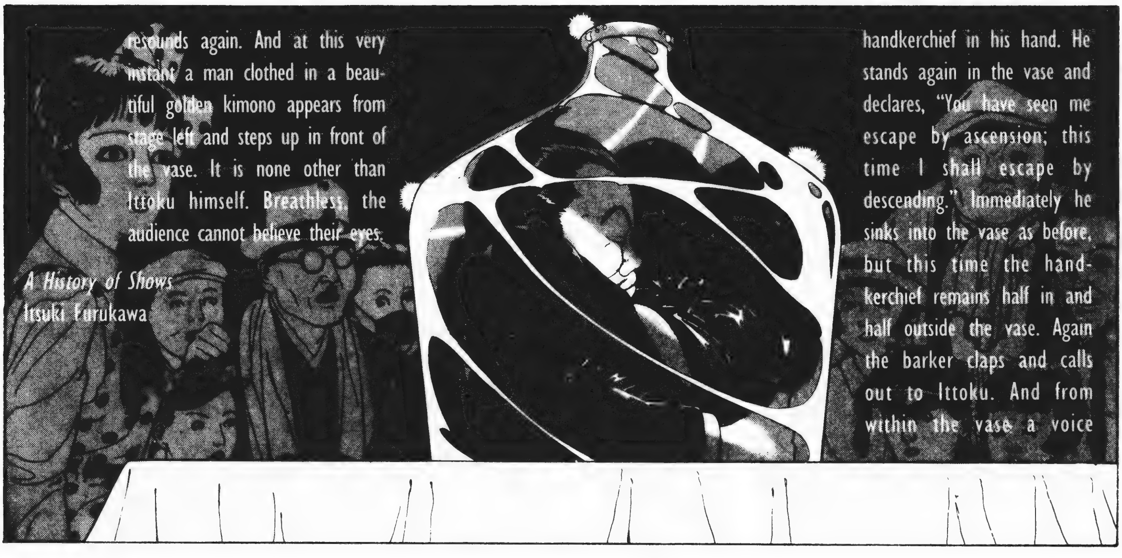

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! WATCH THE MUMMY MAN HIT THE BULL'S-EYE!
TONK
GET OFF THE STAGE, YOU BOZO!
WE WANT MASAMITSU!
BRING OUT MASAMITSU!
UH, EXCUSE ME, SIR—ARE YOU READY TO GO ON?
UMMM—SIR?
IN A MOMENT.
MIDORI, SWEETIE, ARE YOU ALMOST READY?
YEP!

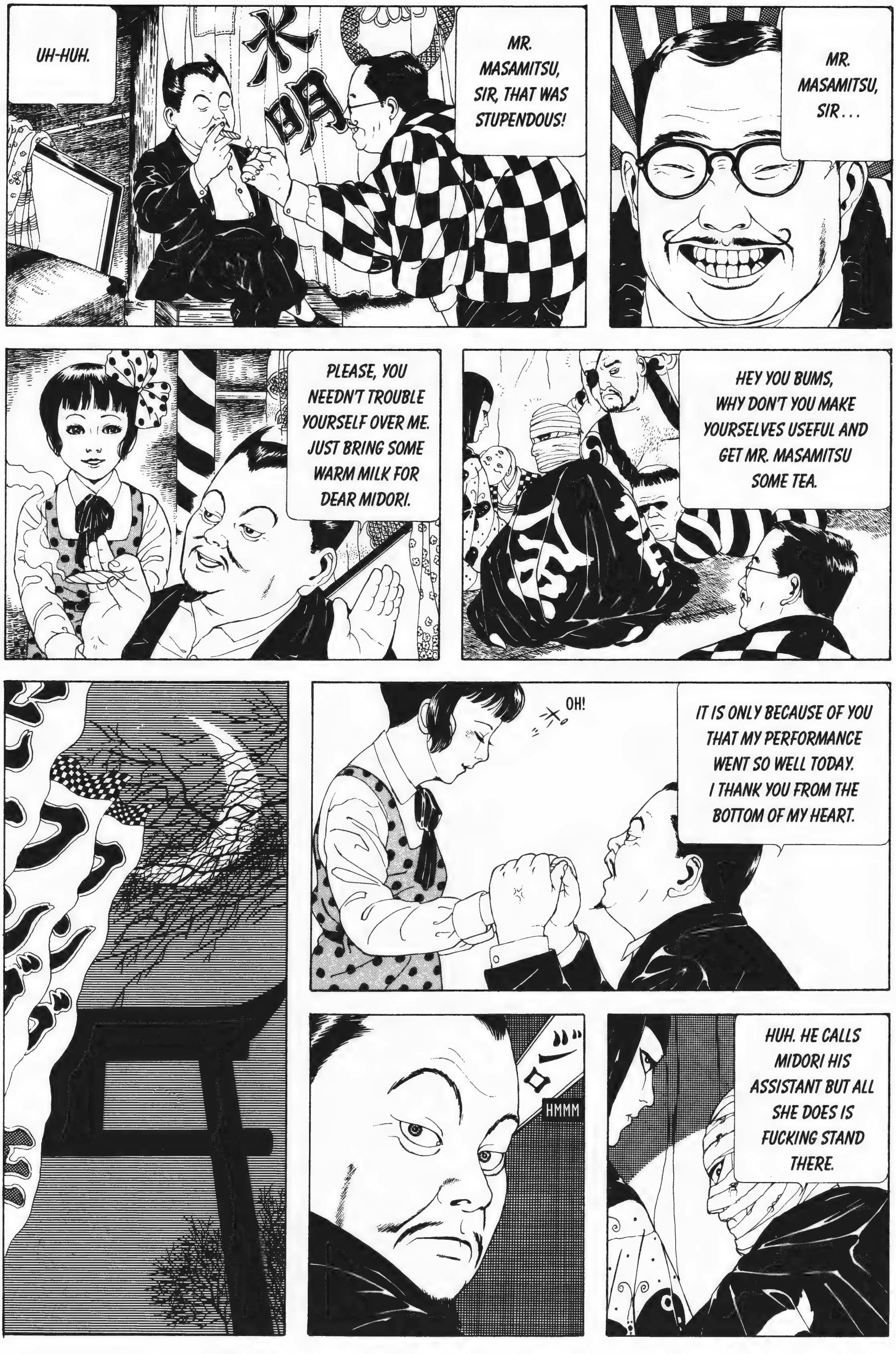

YAAAAAY!!
MASAMITSU THE BOTTLED WONDER
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!
OH BOY!
パチパチパチ
CLAP
CLAP
THANK YOU, THANK YOU.
CLAP
WE'RE FINALLY GONNA SEE MASAMITSU!
MAY I INTRODUCE MY LOVELY ASSISTANT, MIDORI.
いよ!!
HOORAY!
HUUUH!

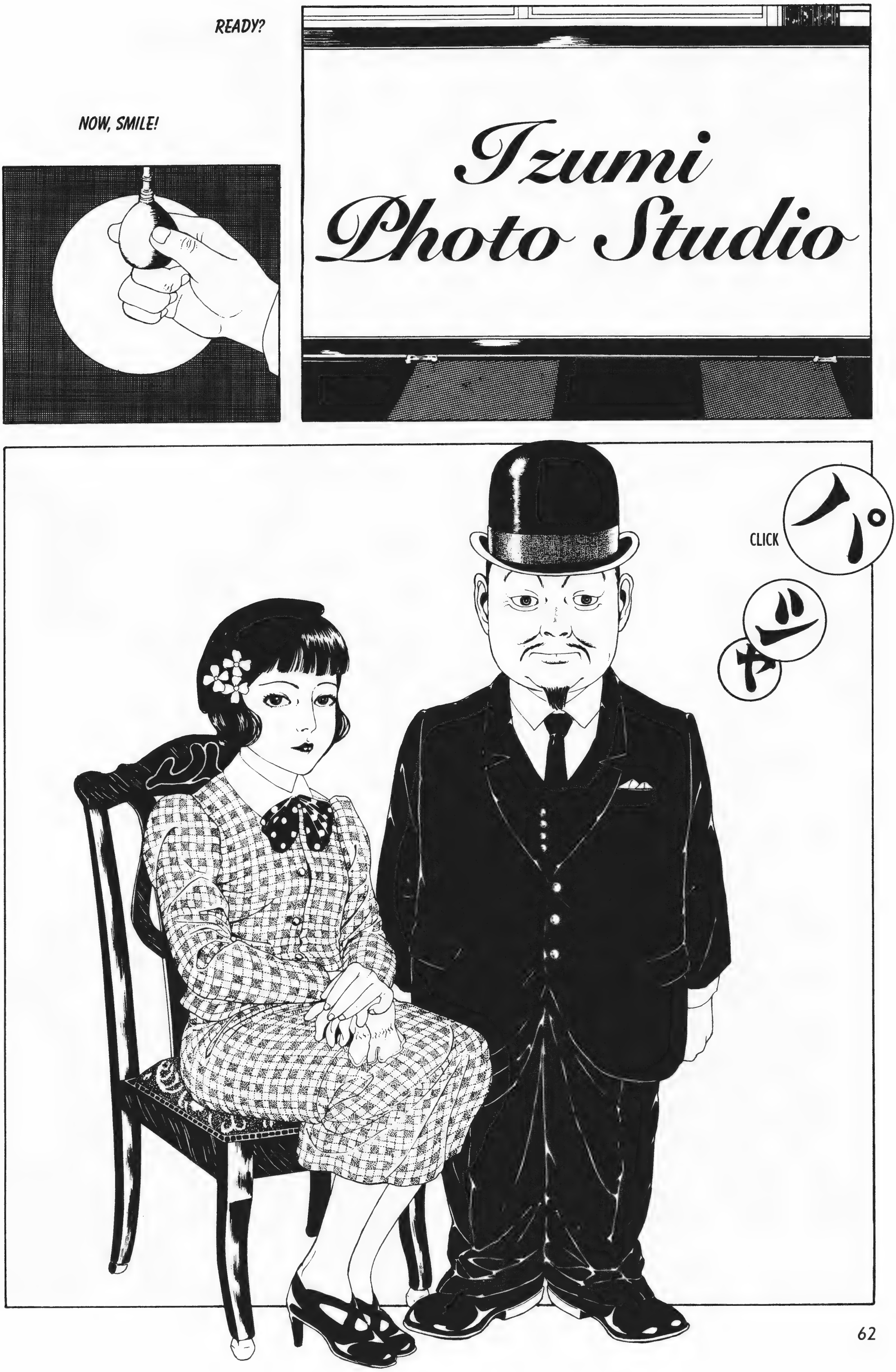

AAAHHH!!
URRK
ズル
I JUST DON'T GET IT . . .
GODDAMN HIM!
SHIT, THAT FUCKING MIDGET'S STEALING THE WHOLE SHOW.
I JUST CAN'T SEE HOW THE TRICK WORKS.
HOW THE HELL DOES HE DO IT?
I'VE SEEN IT A MILLION TIMES AND I STILL CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT.

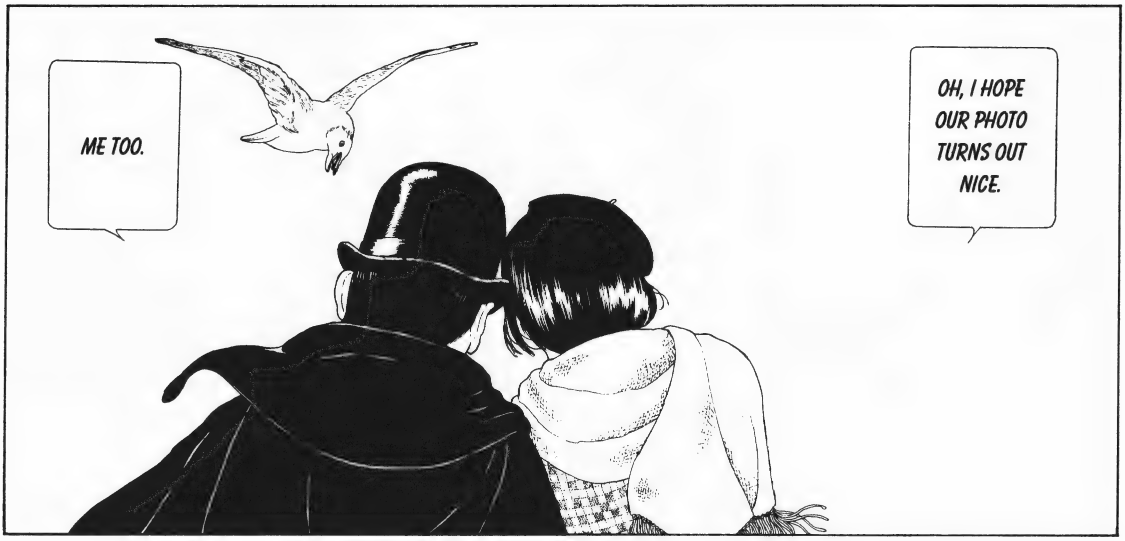


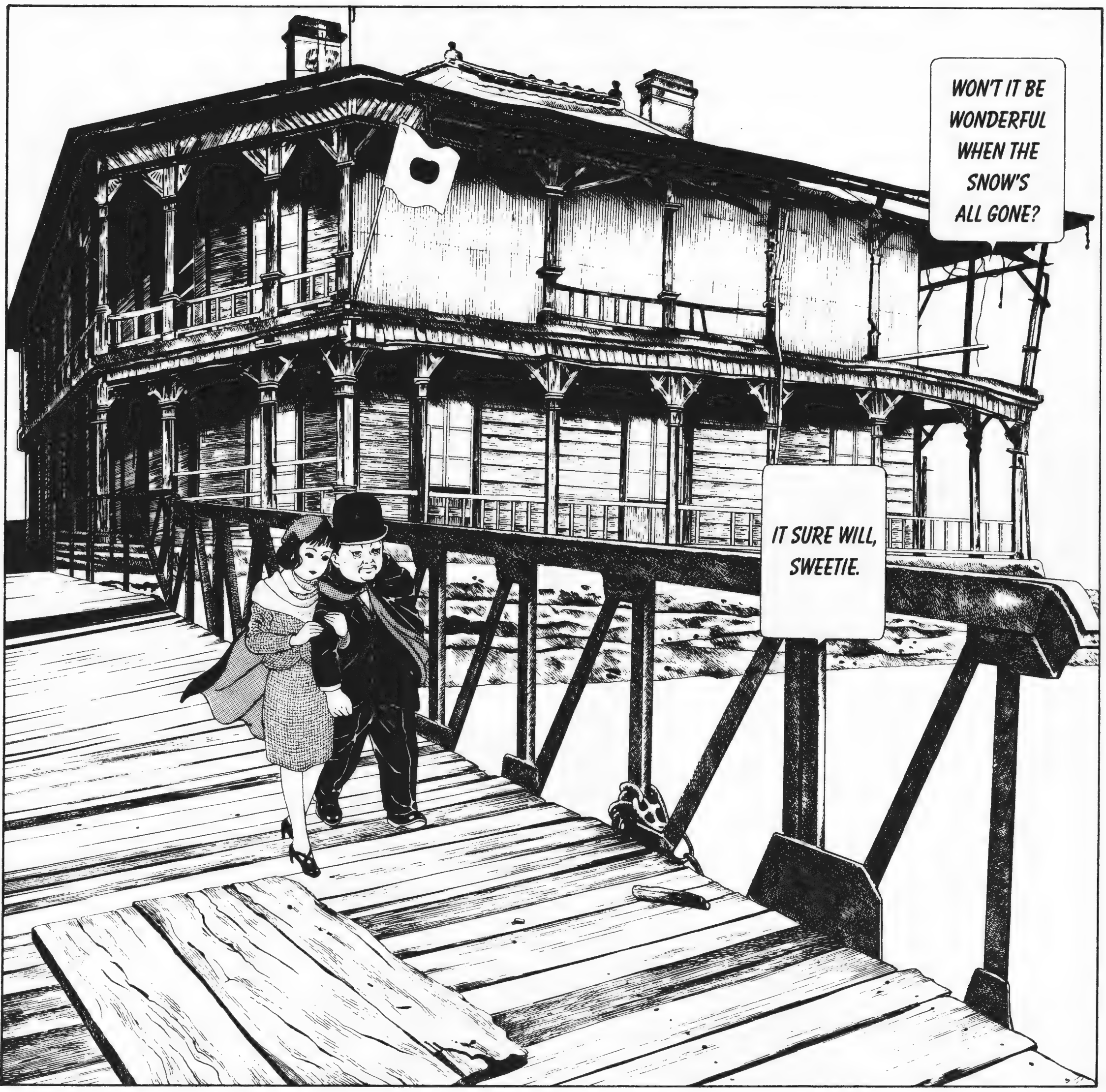
The curtain rises. At center stage stands a vase three feet in height whose mouth measures at about a foot and a half in diameter. Ittoku appears on stage and tilts the vase down to show the audience it is empty. Then he places the vase atop a large table beneath which there is nothing—no devices of any kind. Several feet behind the table hangs a white curtain from above. Six candles encircling the table are lit, and they illuminate the stage very brightly. Dressed in a suit and holding a red handkerchief in his hand, Ittoku steps into the vase and stands up straight The vase comes up only to his knees. As the crowd roars, Ittoku protests that it is too difficult to get into the bottle. But the carny barker standing alongside him objects, "You know you always like getting into the vase—what's this sudden reluctance?" The handkerchief clasped in his right hand, Ittoku begins to sink down into the vase. His shoulders disappear, and after lingering a moment at the edge of the vase, the handkerchief too disappears into the vessel. Suddenly the barker claps his hands and calls out to Ittoku. A voice resounds from inside the vase. As the voice continues to speak from within the vase, in the ceiling directly above a hole opens up from which Ittoku slowly descends, still holding the handkerchief in his hand. He stands again in the vase and declares, "You have seen me escape by ascension; this time I shall escape by descending." Immediately he sinks into the vase as before, but this time the handkerchief remains half in and half outside the vase. Again the barker claps and calls out to Ittoku. And from within the vase a voice resounds again. And at this very instant a man clothed in a beautiful golden kimono appears from stage left and steps up in front of the vase. It is none other than Ittoku himself. Breathless, the audience cannot believe their eyes.

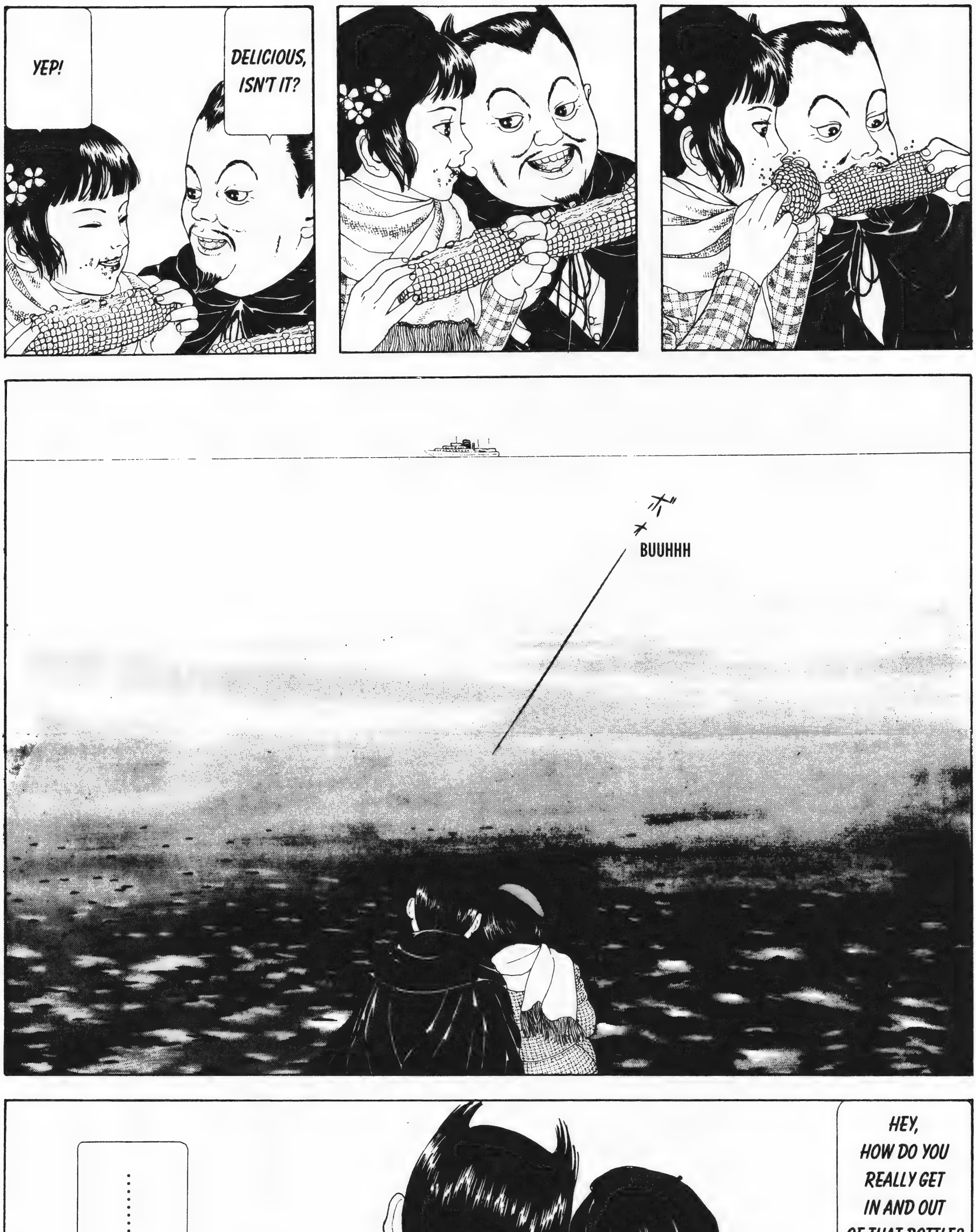


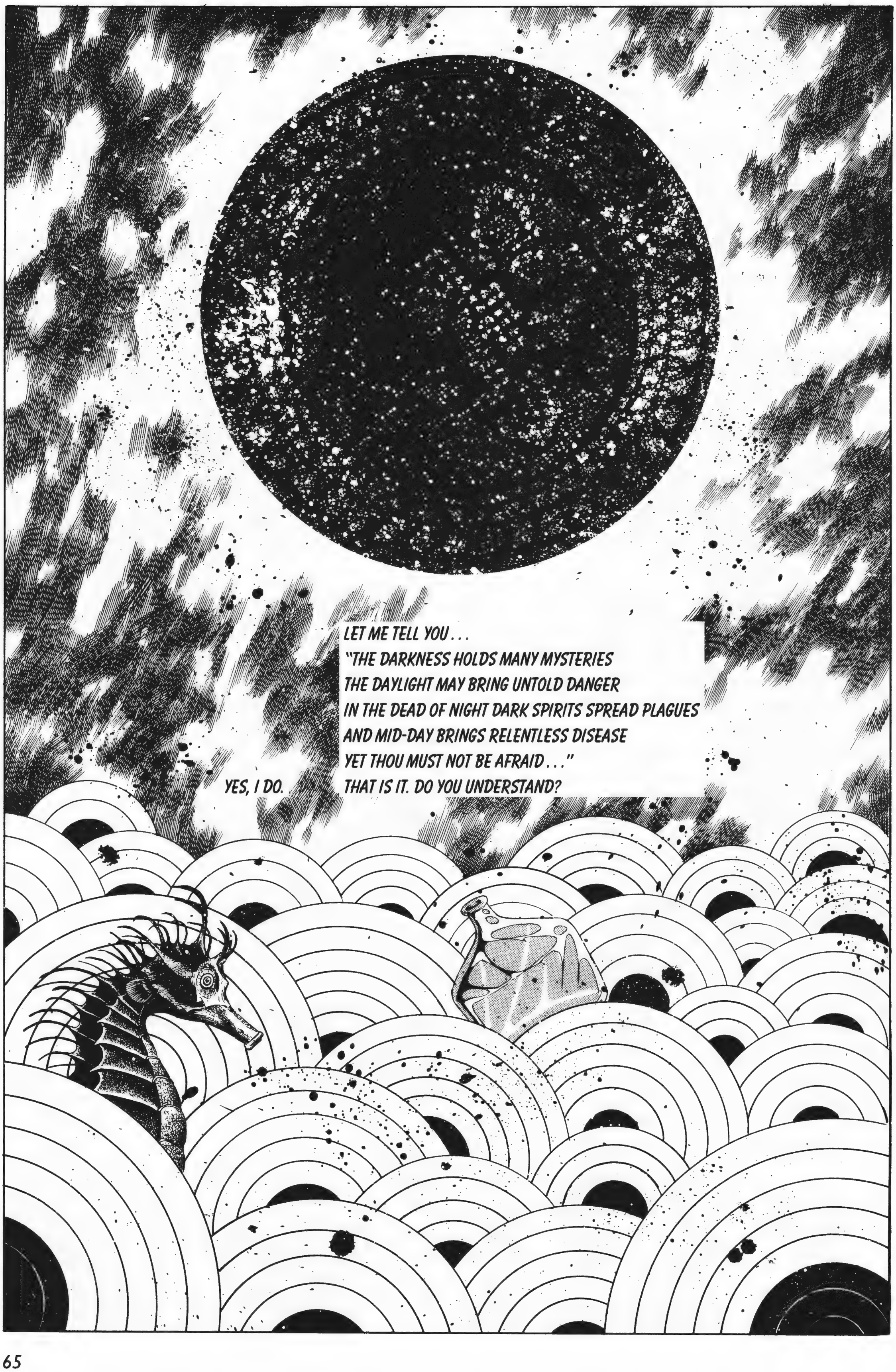

MR. MASAMITSU, SIR, THAT WAS STUPENDOUS!
UH-HUH.
MR. MASAMITSU, SIR . . .
PLEASE, YOU NEEDN'T TROUBLE YOURSELF OVER ME. JUST BRING SOME WARM MILK FOR DEAR MIDORI.
HEY YOU BUMS, WHY DON'T YOU MAKE YOURSELVES USEFUL AND GET MR. MASAMITSU SOME TEA.
OH!
IT IS ONLY BECAUSE OF YOU THAT MY PERFORMANCE WENT SO WELL TODAY. I THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.
HMMM
HUH. HE CALLS MIDORI HIS ASSISTANT BUT ALL SHE DOES IS FUCKING STAND THERE.

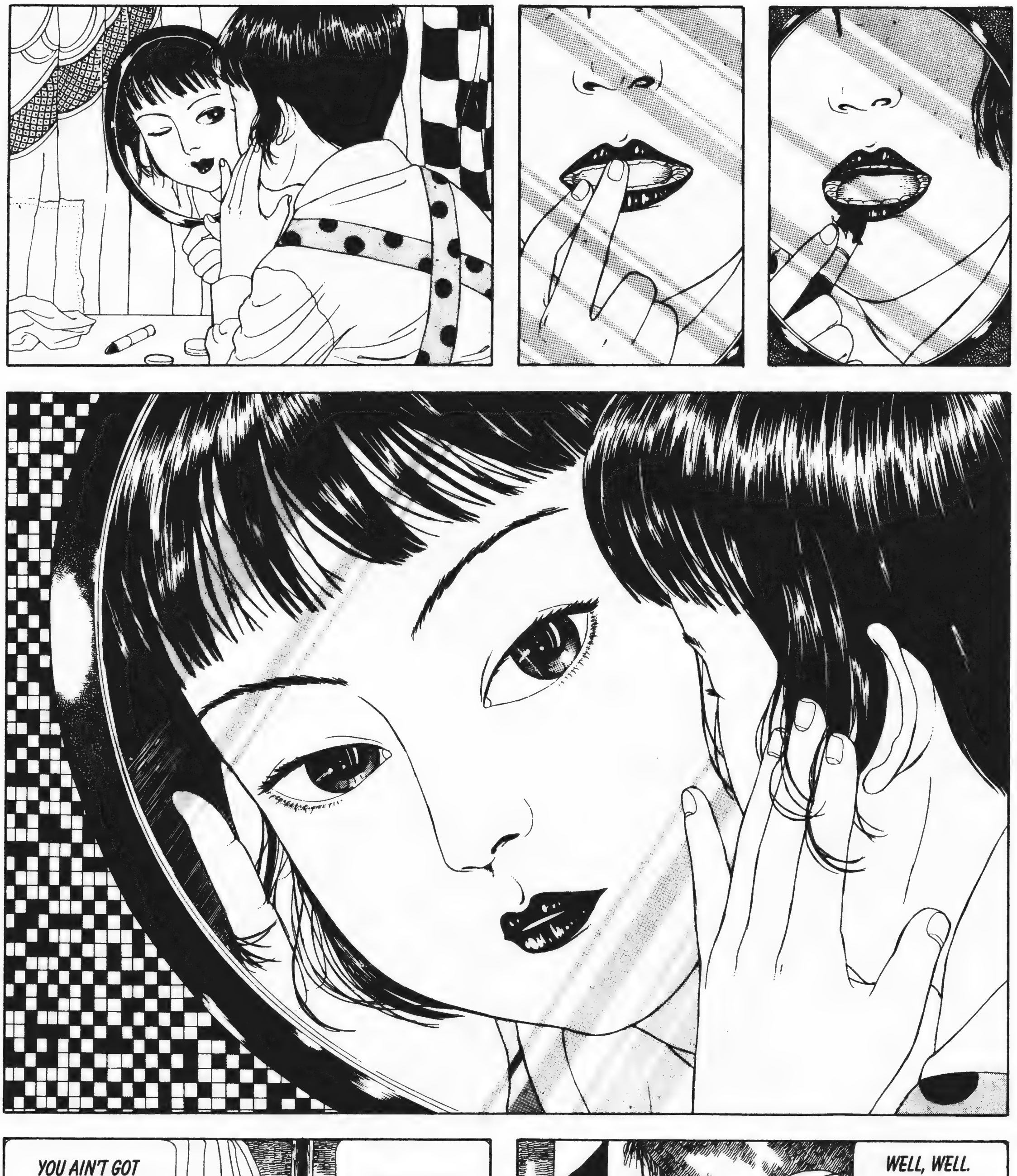

READY?
NOW, SMILE!
Izumi Photo Studio
CLICK
パシャ

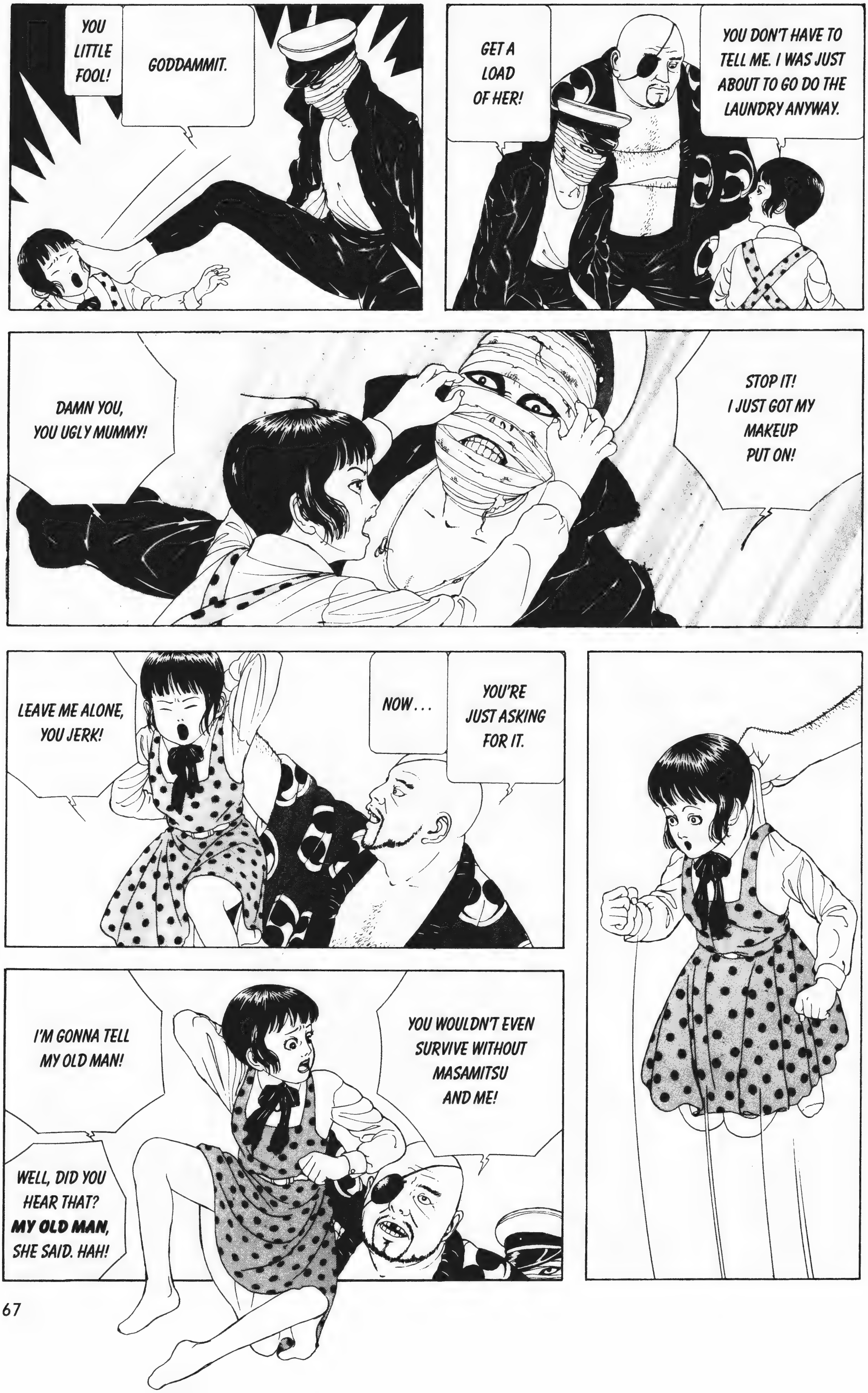

OH, I HOPE OUR PHOTO TURNS OUT NICE.
ME TOO.

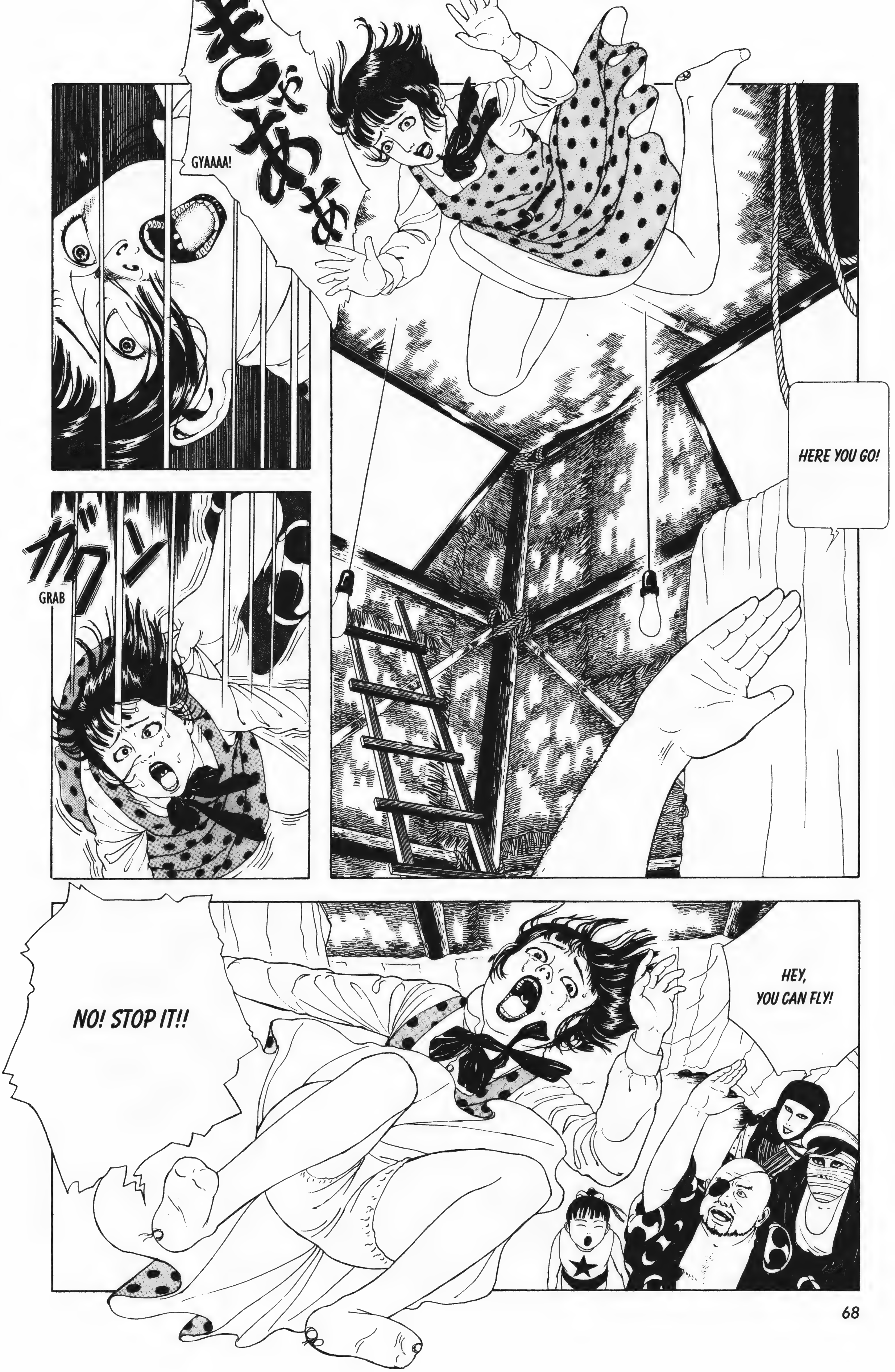

WON'T IT BE WONDERFUL WHEN THE SNOW'S ALL GONE?
IT SURE WILL, SWEETIE.

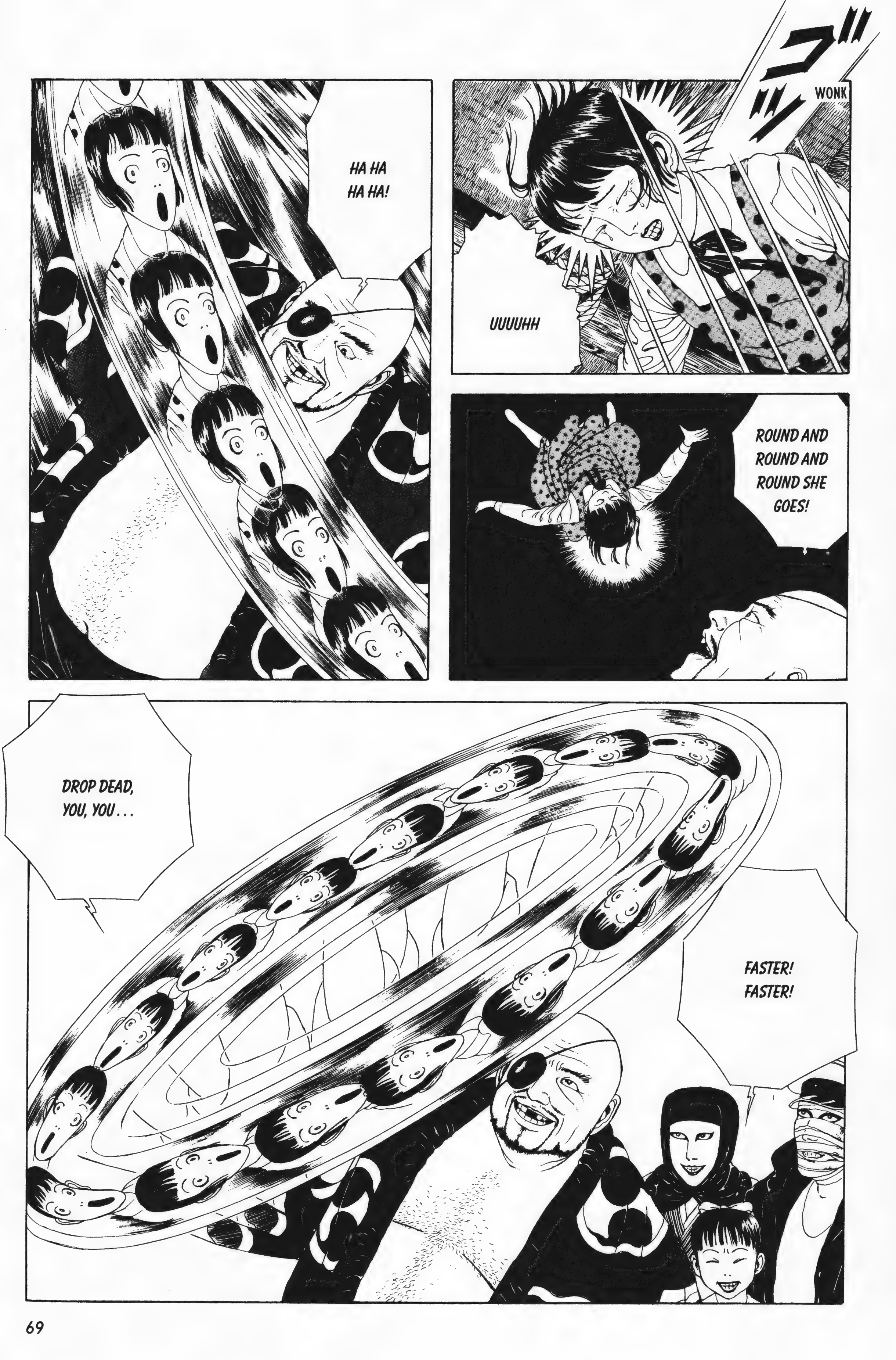

DELICIOUS, ISN'T IT?
YEP!
ボォ
BUUHHH
HEY, HOW DO YOU REALLY GET IN AND OUT OF THAT BOTTLE?
....

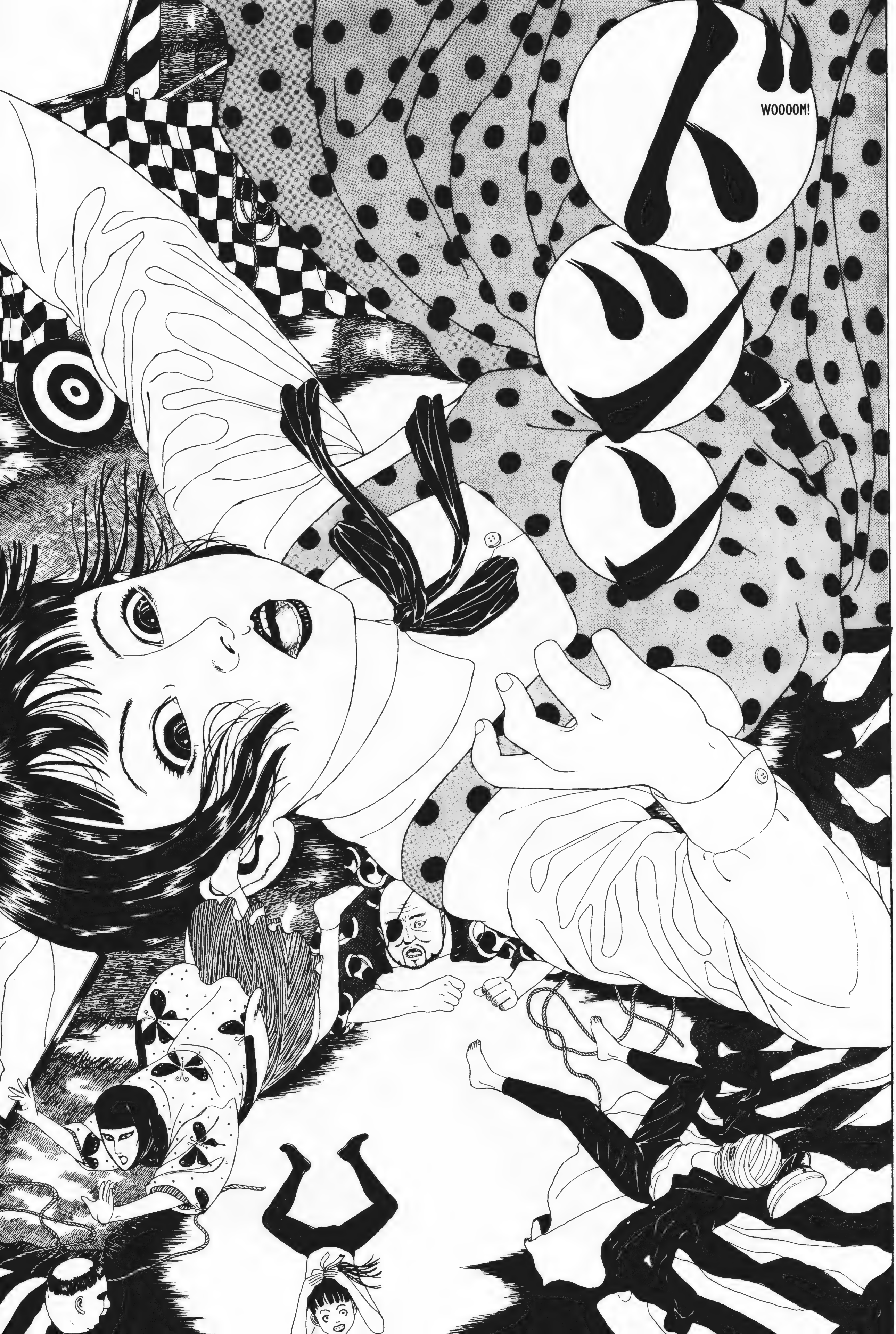

LET ME TELL YOU . . .
"THE DARKNESS HOLDS MANY MYSTERIES
THE DAYLIGHT MAY BRING UNTOLD DANGER
IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT DARK SPIRITS SPREAD PLAGUES
AND MID-DAY BRINGS RELENTLESS DISEASE
YET THOU MUST NOT BE AFRAID . . ."
THAT IS IT. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
YES, I DO.

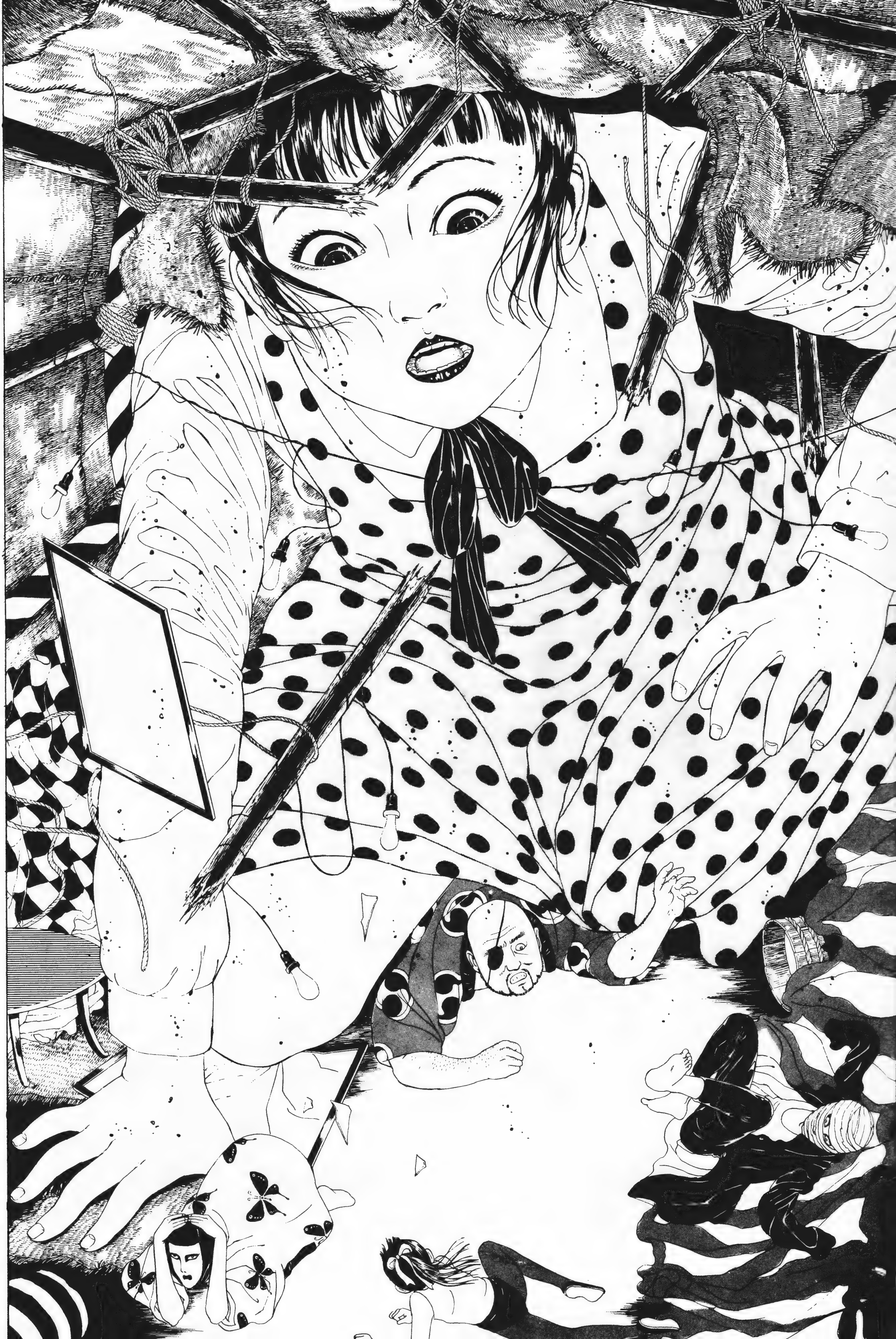

YOU AIN'T GOT TIME TO BE STARING INTO NO MIRRORS.
WHAT ABOUT THE FUCKING LAUNDRY, HUH?
WELL, WELL. JUST LOOK AT MIDORI. SHE'S IN LOVE WITH THE STAR OF THE SHOW.

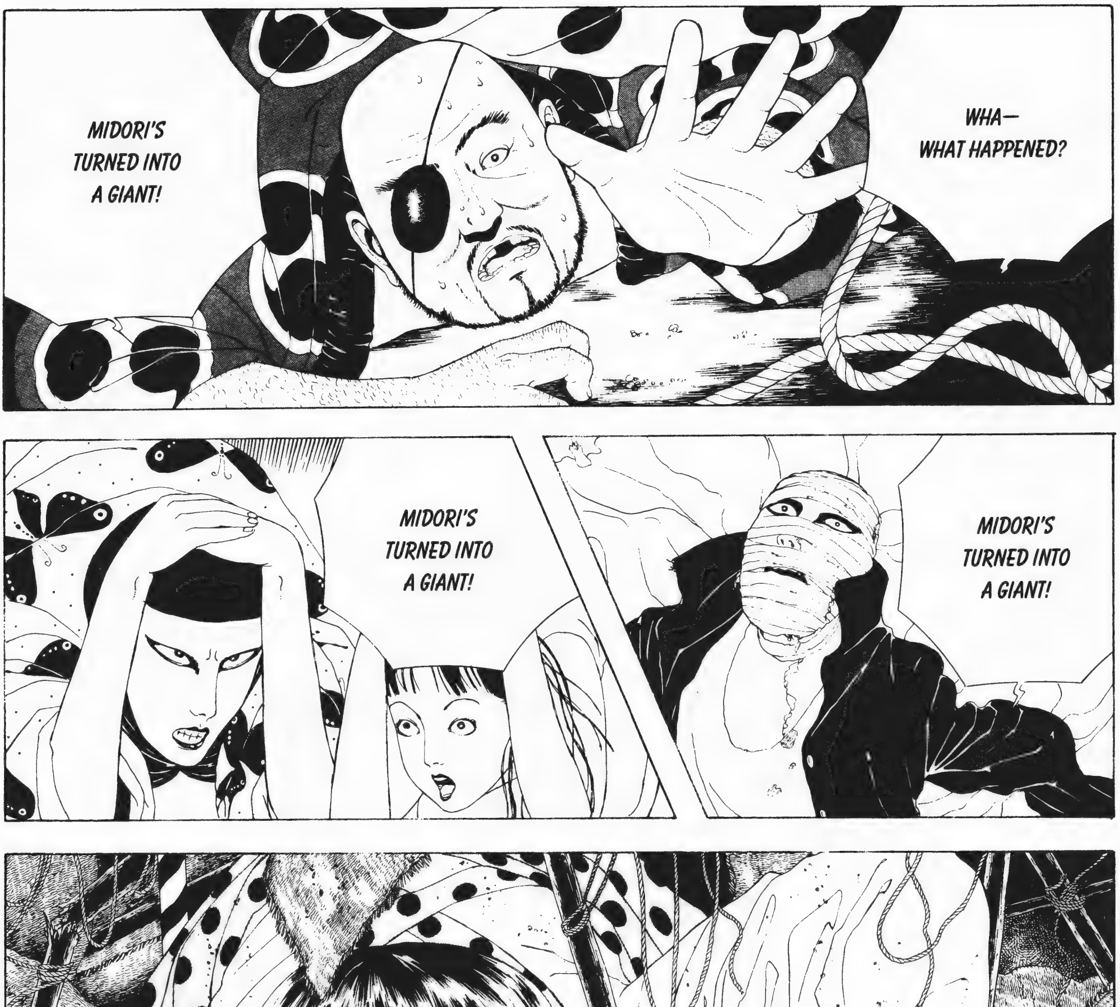

YOU LITTLE FOOL!
GODDAMMIT.
GET A LOAD OF HER!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME. I WAS JUST ABOUT TO GO DO THE LAUNDRY ANYWAY.
DAMN YOU, YOU UGLY MUMMY!
STOP IT! I JUST GOT MY MAKEUP PUT ON!
LEAVE ME ALONE, YOU JERK!
NOW . . .
YOU'RE JUST ASKING FOR IT.
I'M GONNA TELL MY OLD MAN!
YOU WOULDN'T EVEN SURVIVE WITHOUT MASAMITSU AND ME!
WELL, DID YOU HEAR THAT? **MY OLD MAN**, SHE SAID. HAH!

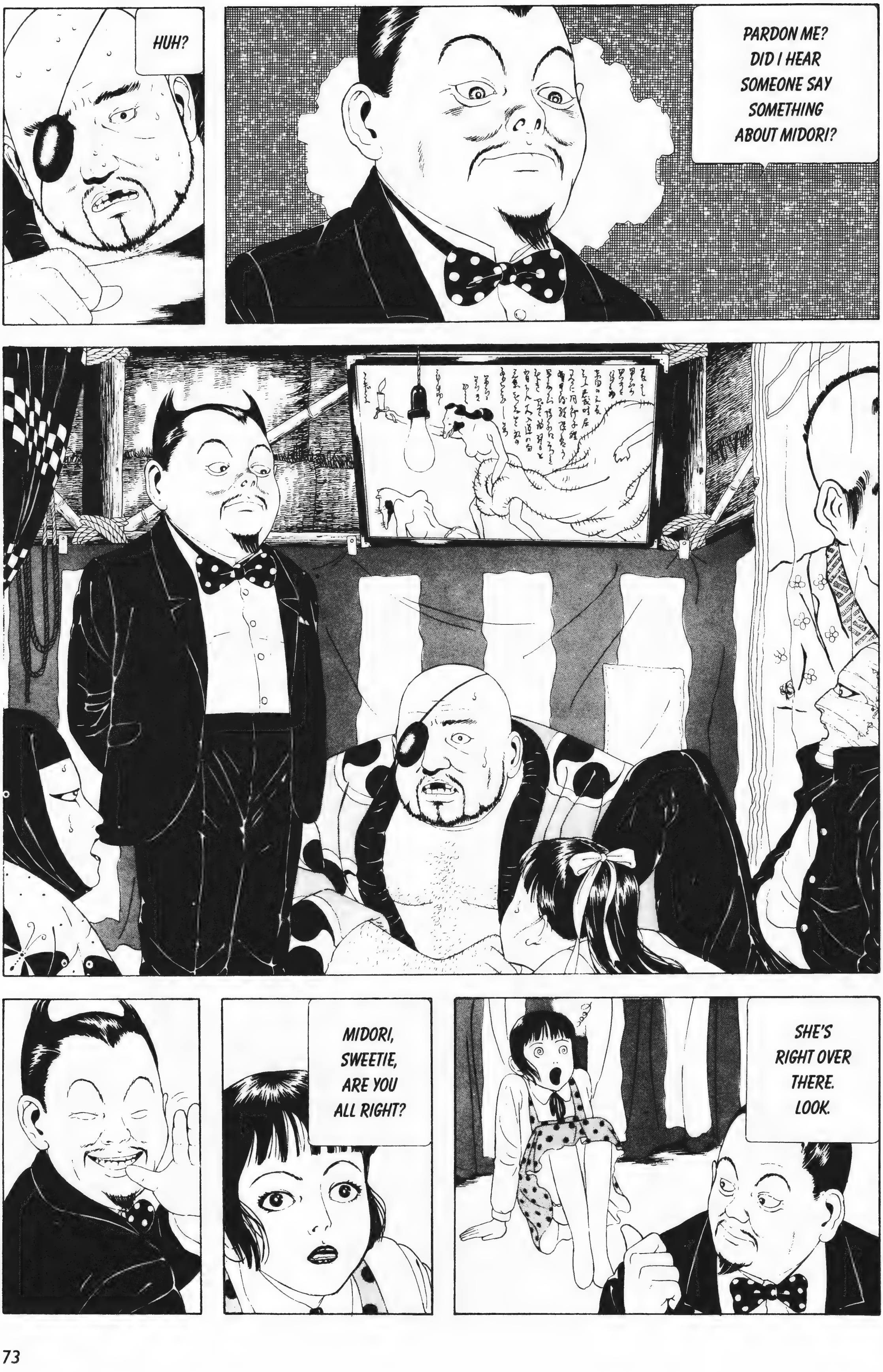

HERE YOU GO!
きひゃあぁぁ
GYAAAA!
カクン
GRAB
HEY, YOU CAN FLY!
NO! STOP IT!!

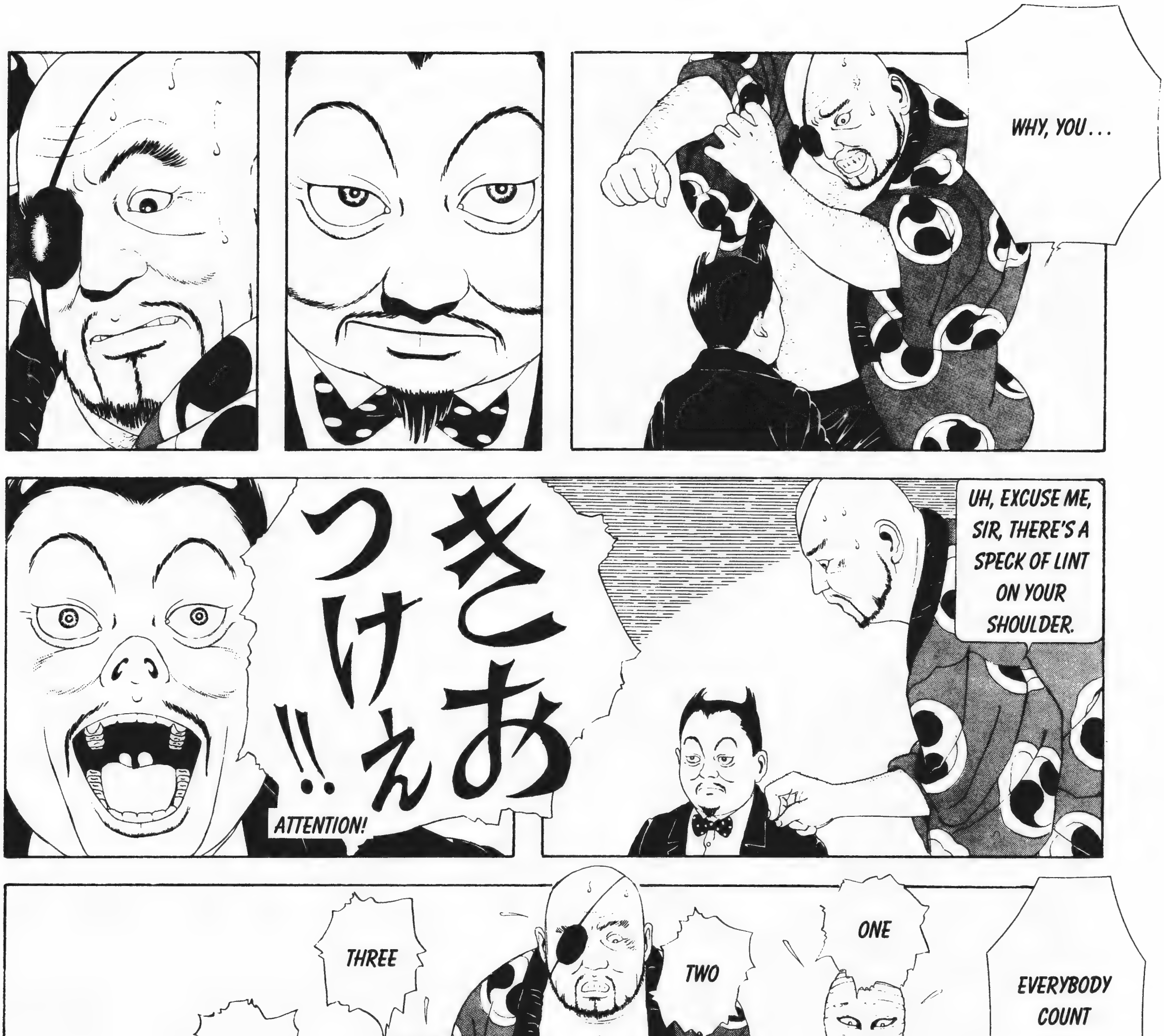

ゴッ
WONK
UUUUHH
ROUND AND ROUND AND ROUND SHE GOES!
HA HA HA HA!
FASTER! FASTER!
DROP DEAD, YOU, YOU . . .

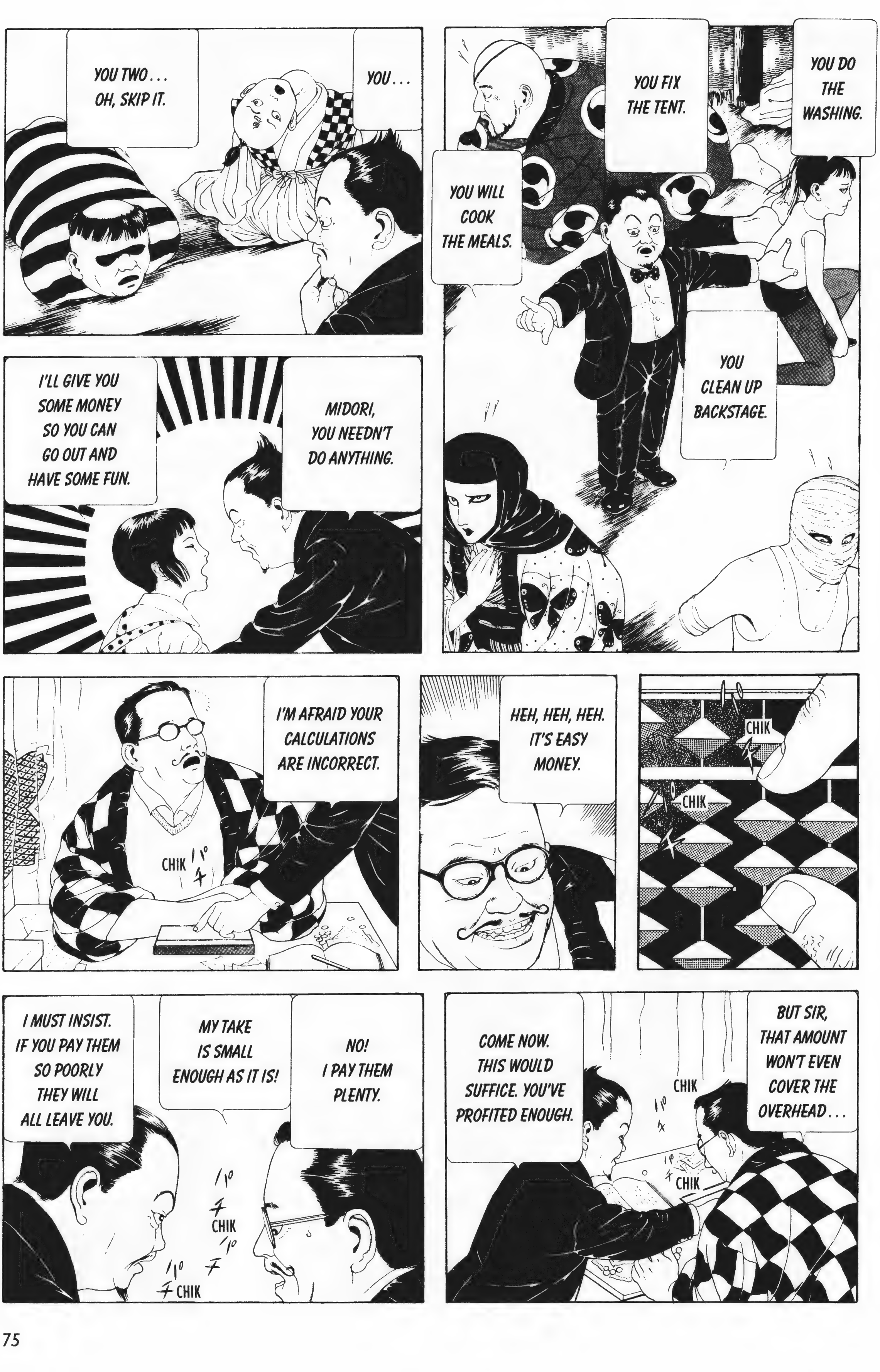

ズッン
WOOOOM!

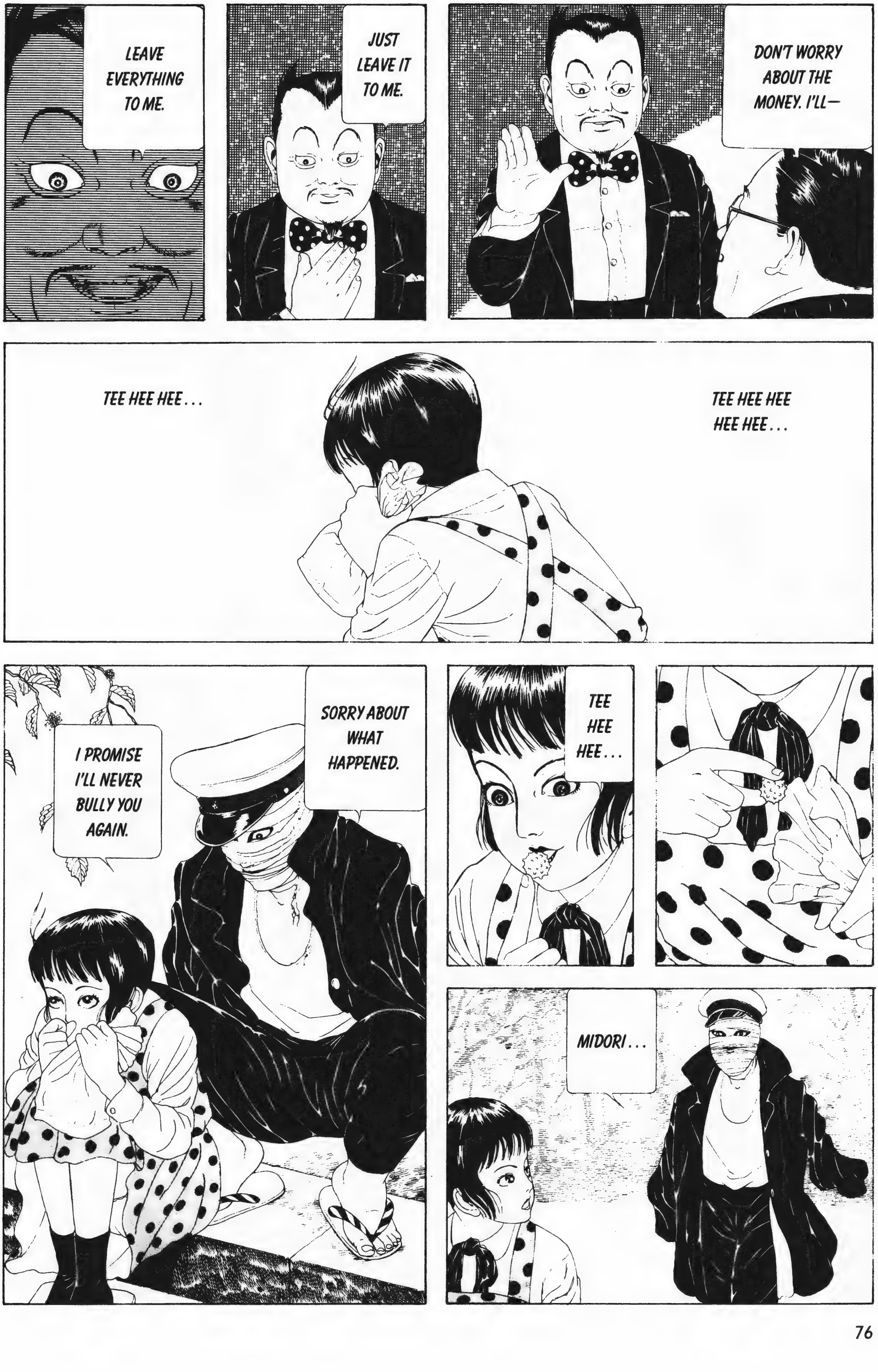


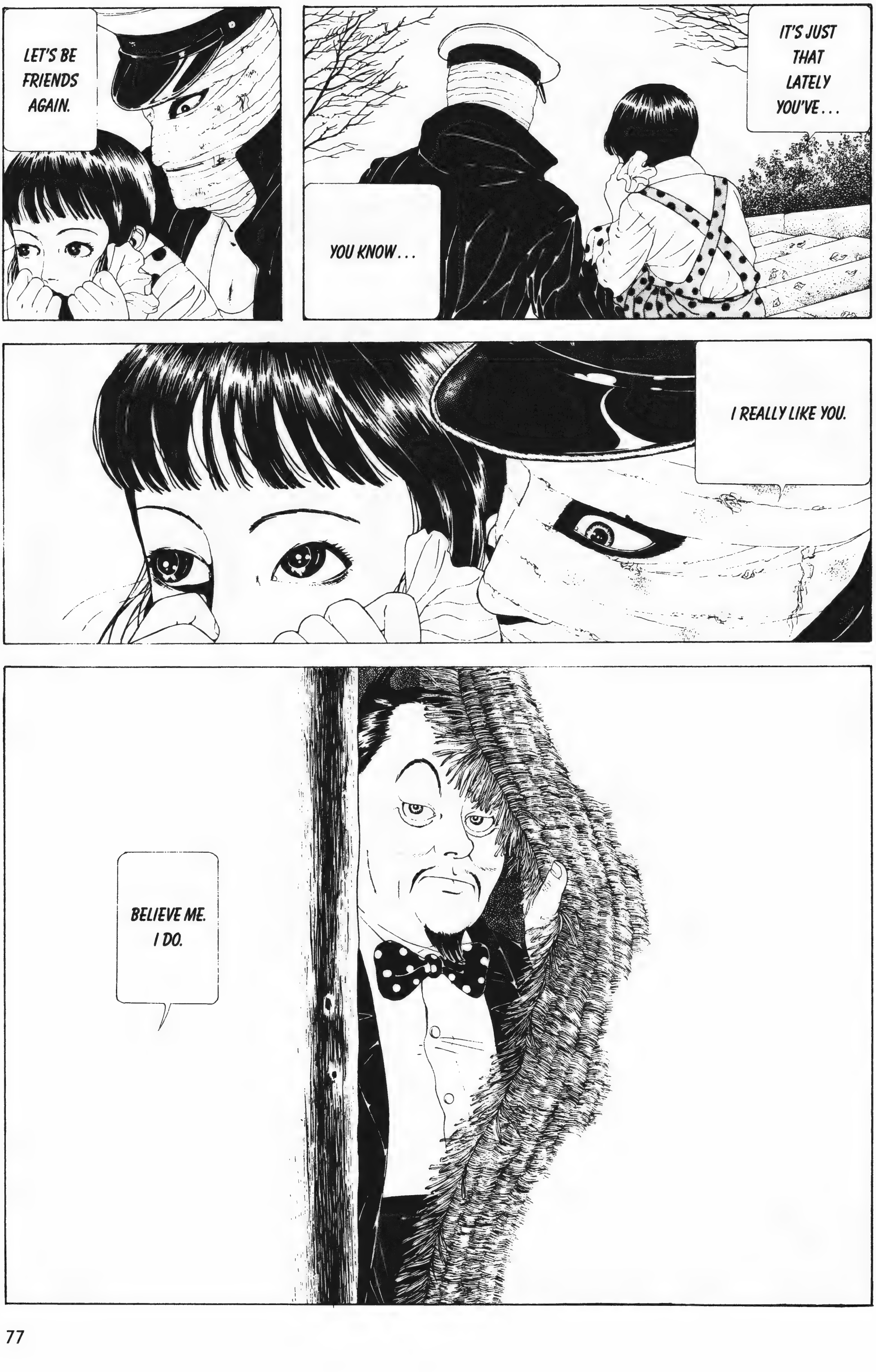

WHA—
WHAT HAPPENED?
MIDORI'S TURNED INTO A GIANT!
MIDORI'S TURNED INTO A GIANT!
MIDORI'S TURNED INTO A GIANT!

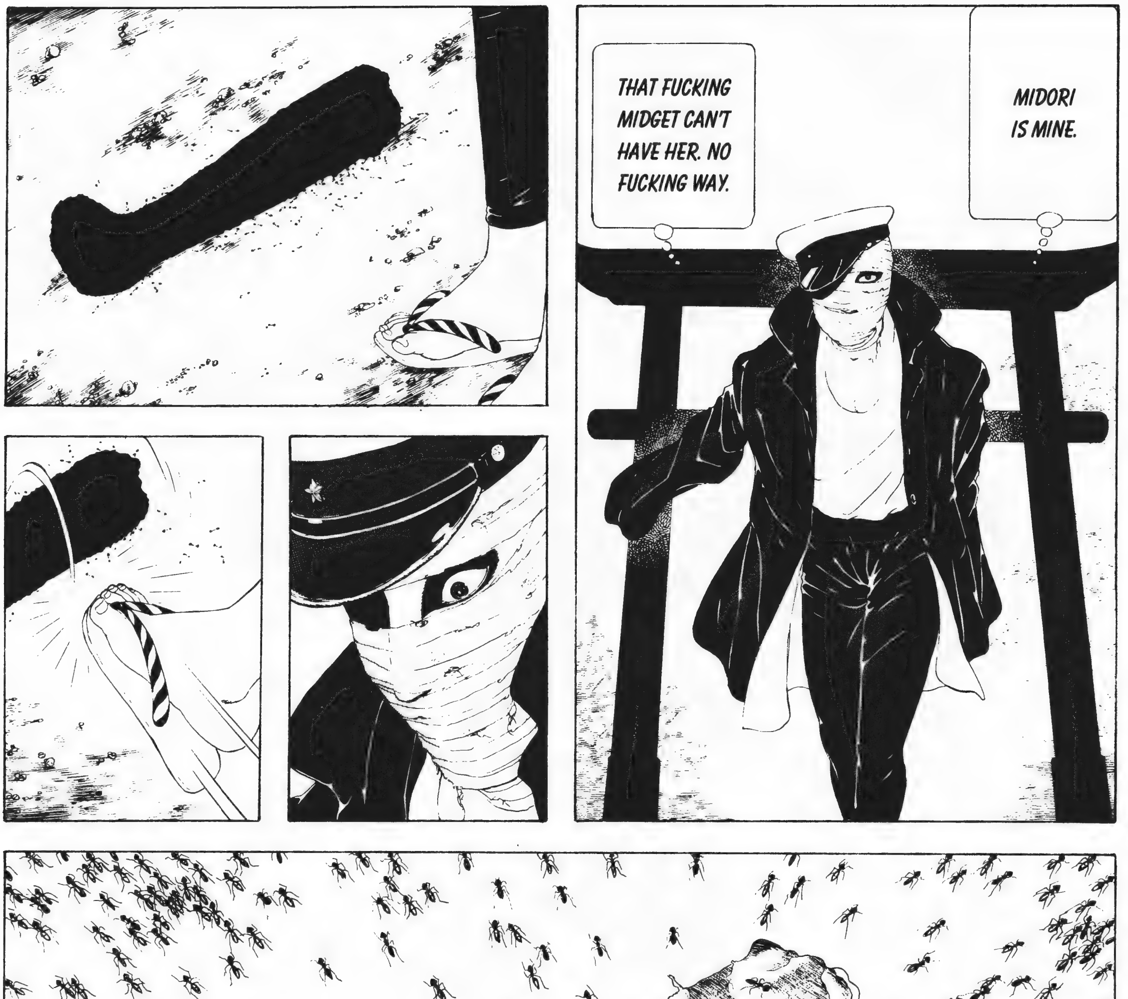

HUH?
PARDON ME? DID I HEAR SOMEONE SAY SOMETHING ABOUT MIDORI?
MIDORI, SWEETIE, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
SHE'S RIGHT OVER THERE. LOOK.


WHY, YOU . . .
UH, EXCUSE ME, SIR, THERE'S A SPECK OF LINT ON YOUR SHOULDER.
きあつけえ!!
ATTENTION!
EVERYBODY COUNT OFF!
ONE
TWO
THREE
FOUR
FIVE
AND A HALF


YOU TWO . . . OH, SKIP IT.
YOU . . .
YOU FIX THE TENT.
YOU DO THE WASHING.
YOU WILL COOK THE MEALS.
YOU CLEAN UP BACKSTAGE.
I'LL GIVE YOU SOME MONEY SO YOU CAN GO OUT AND HAVE SOME FUN.
MIDORI, YOU NEEDN'T DO ANYTHING.
I'M AFRAID YOUR CALCULATIONS ARE INCORRECT.
CHIK
HEH, HEH, HEH. IT'S EASY MONEY.
CHIK
CHIK
I MUST INSIST. IF YOU PAY THEM SO POORLY THEY WILL ALL LEAVE YOU.
MY TAKE IS SMALL ENOUGH AS IT IS!
NO! I PAY THEM PLENTY.
CHIK
CHIK
COME NOW. THIS WOULD SUFFICE. YOU'VE PROFITED ENOUGH.
CHIK
CHIK
BUT SIR, THAT AMOUNT WON'T EVEN COVER THE OVERHEAD . . .

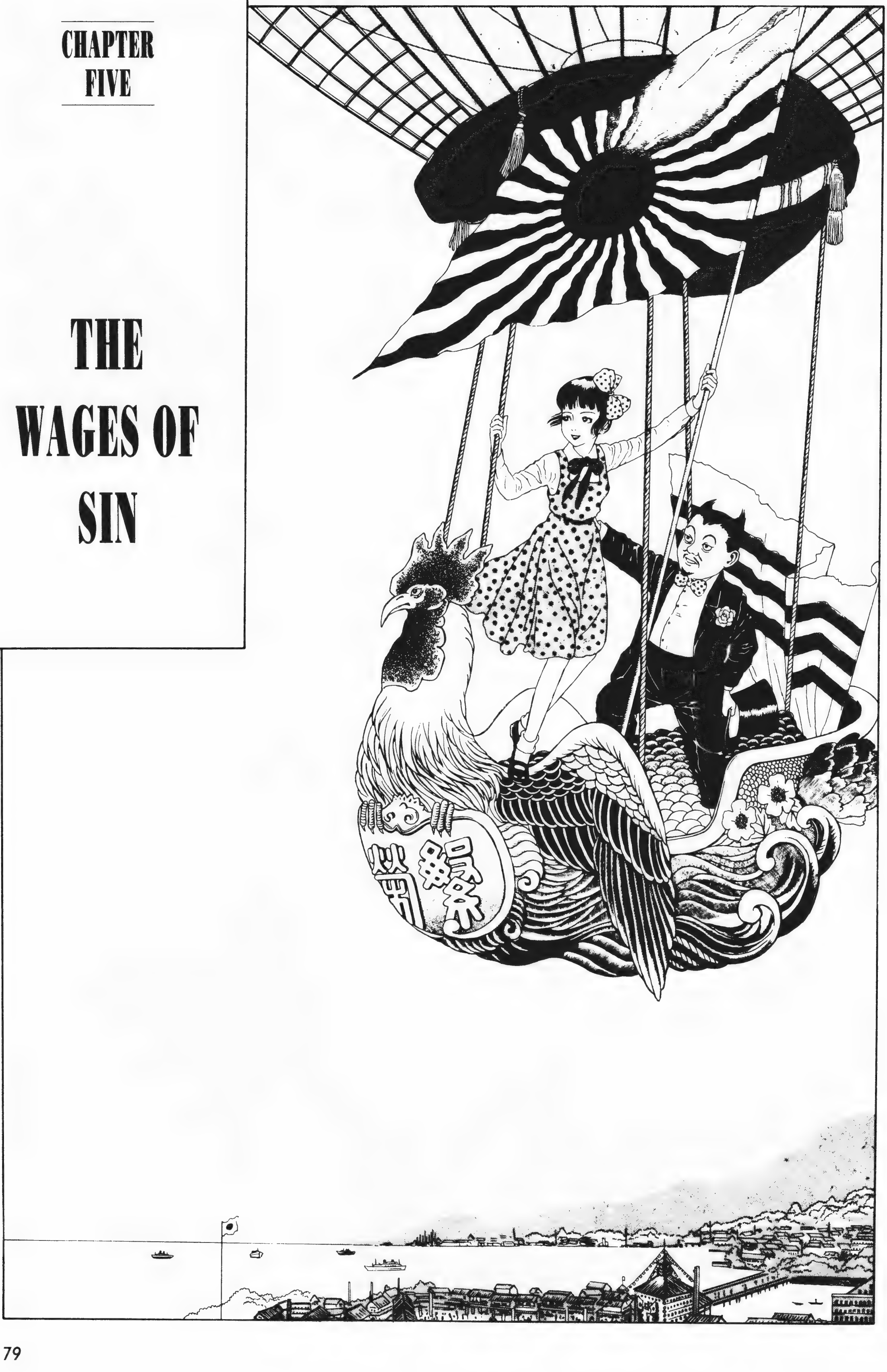

LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME.
JUST LEAVE IT TO ME.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE MONEY. I'LL—
TEE HEE HEE . . .
TEE HEE HEE HEE HEE . . .
SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED.
I PROMISE I'LL NEVER BULLY YOU AGAIN.
TEE HEE HEE . . .
MIDORI . . .

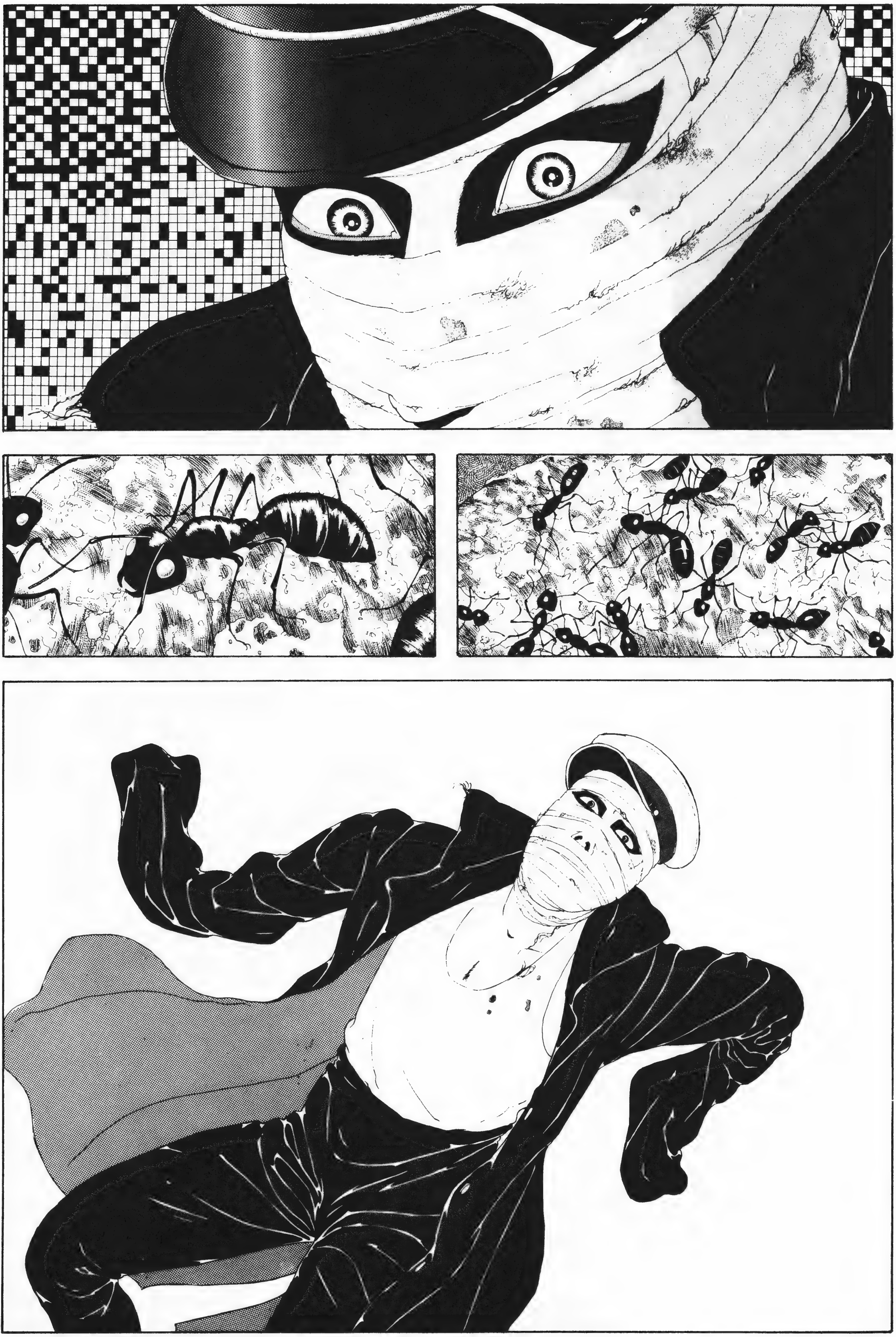

IT'S JUST THAT LATELY YOU'VE . . .
YOU KNOW . . .
LET'S BE FRIENDS AGAIN.
I REALLY LIKE YOU.
BELIEVE ME. I DO.

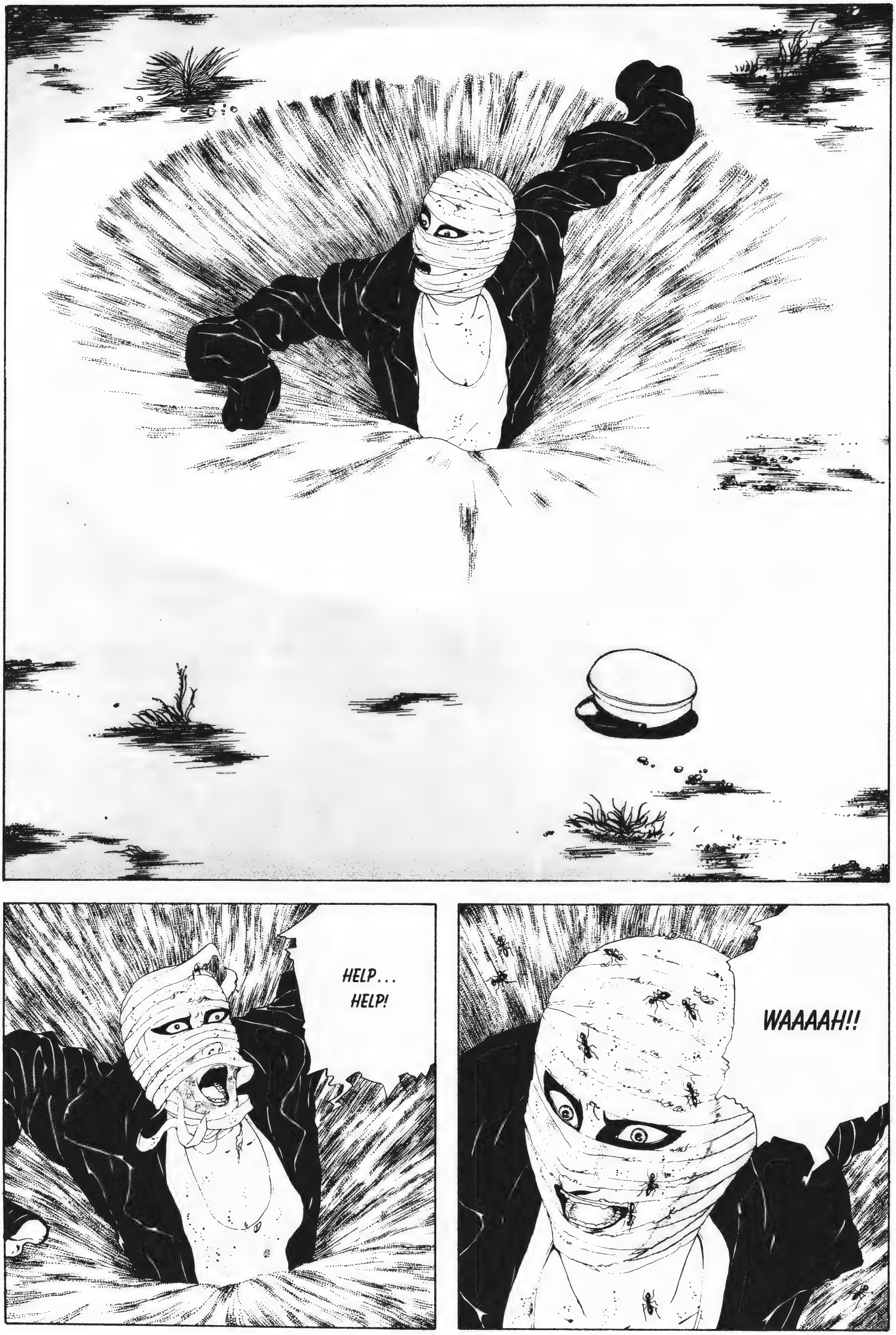

THAT FUCKING MIDGET CAN'T HAVE HER. NO FUCKING WAY.
MIDORI IS MINE.

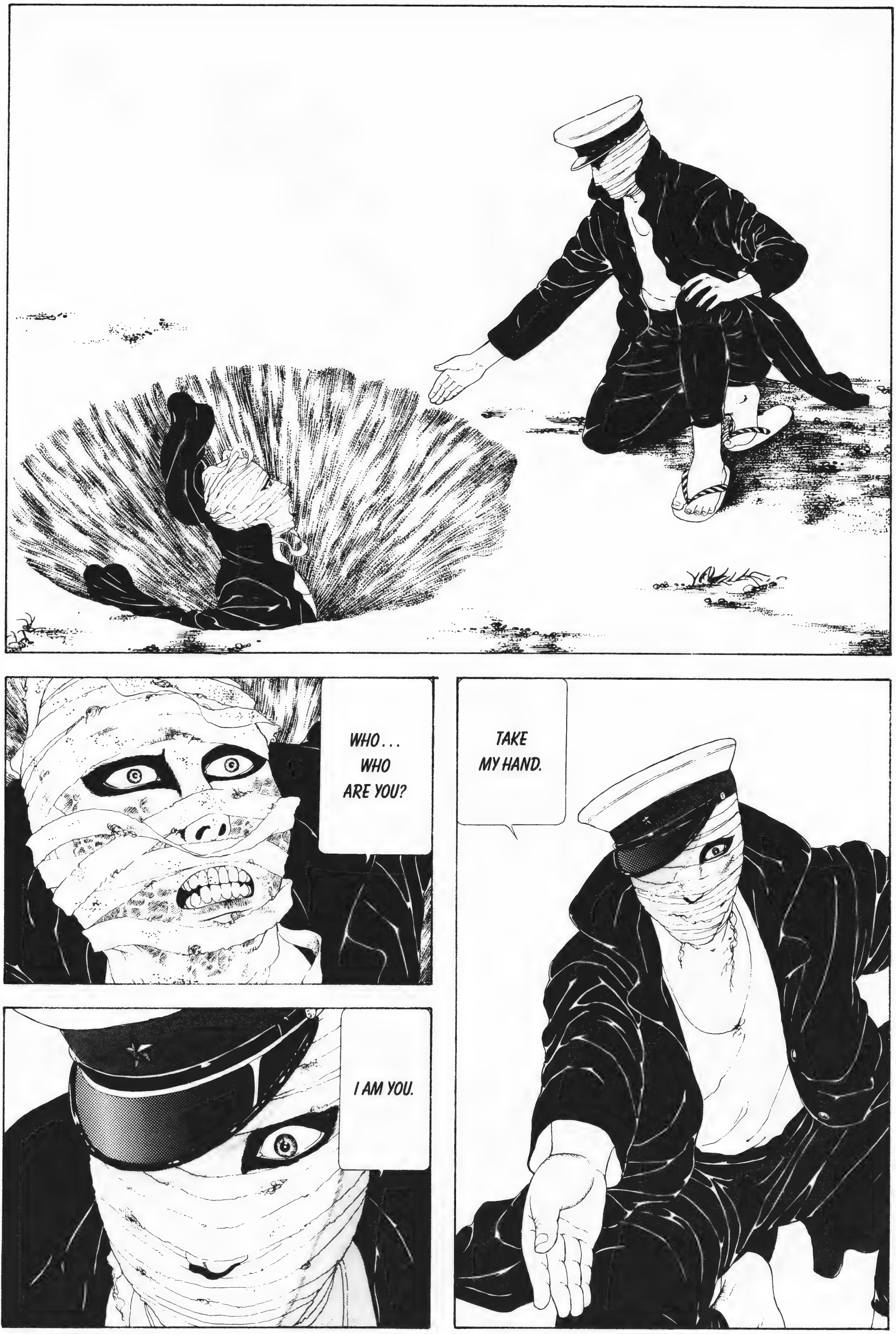
CHAPTER FIVE

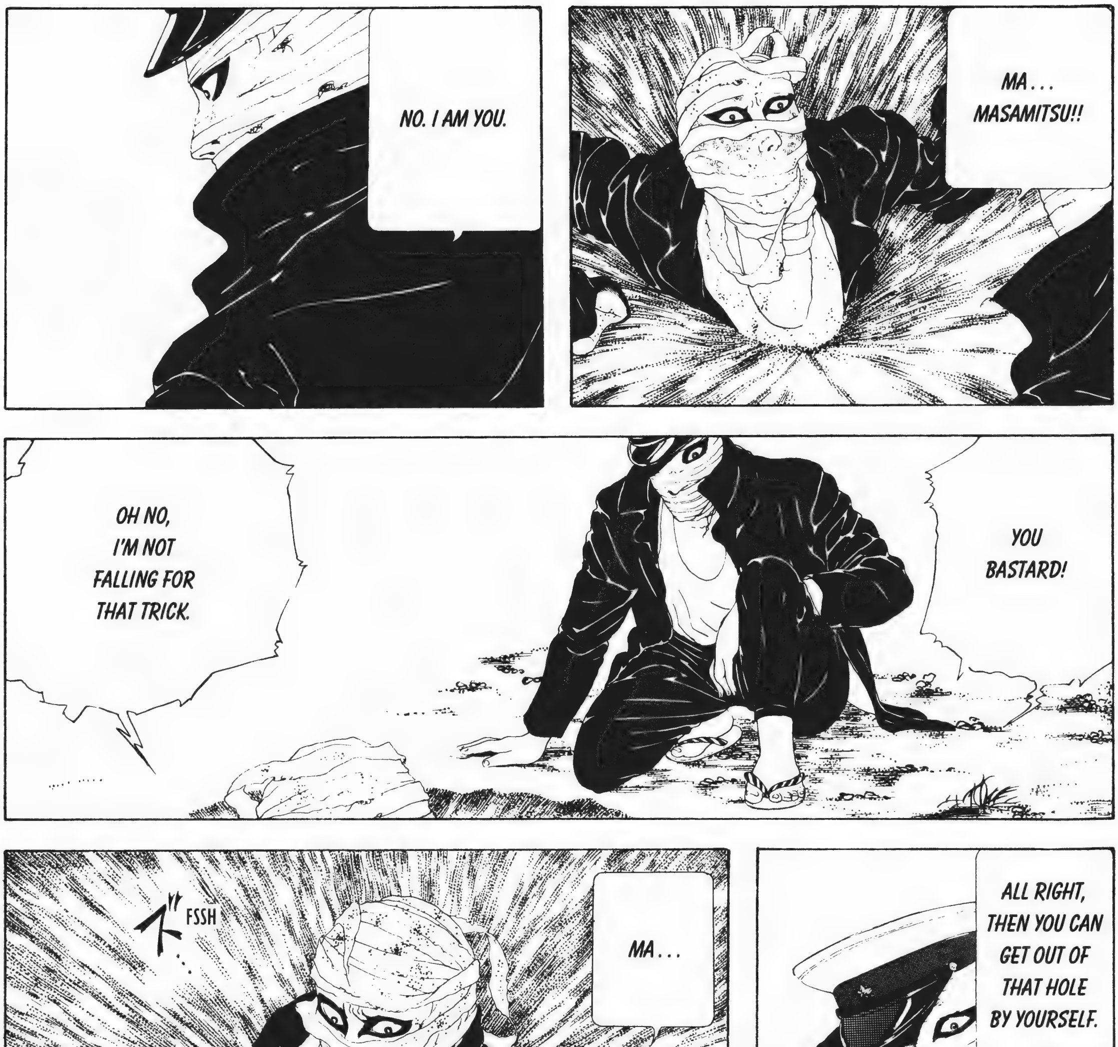
THE WAGES OF SIN

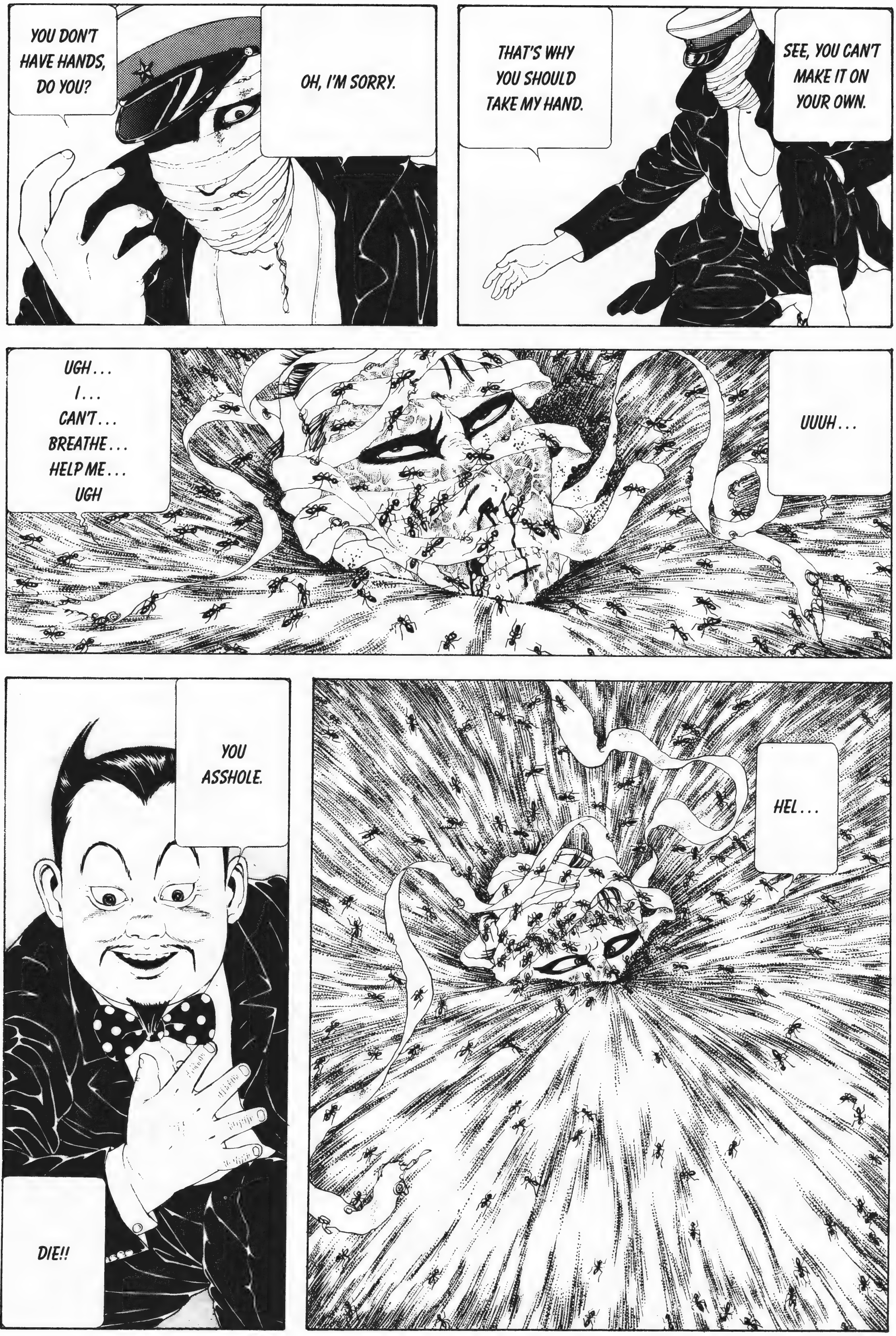


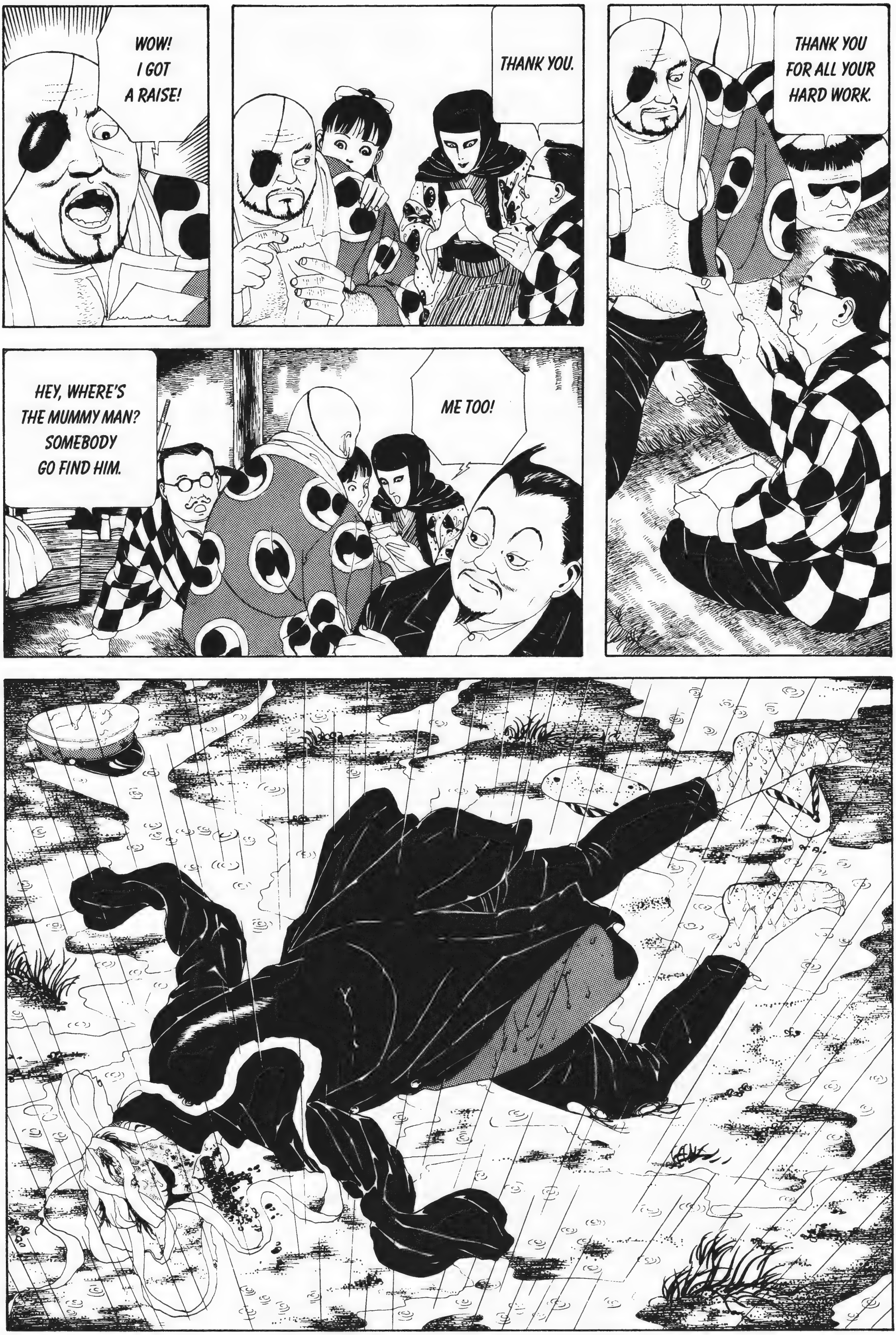


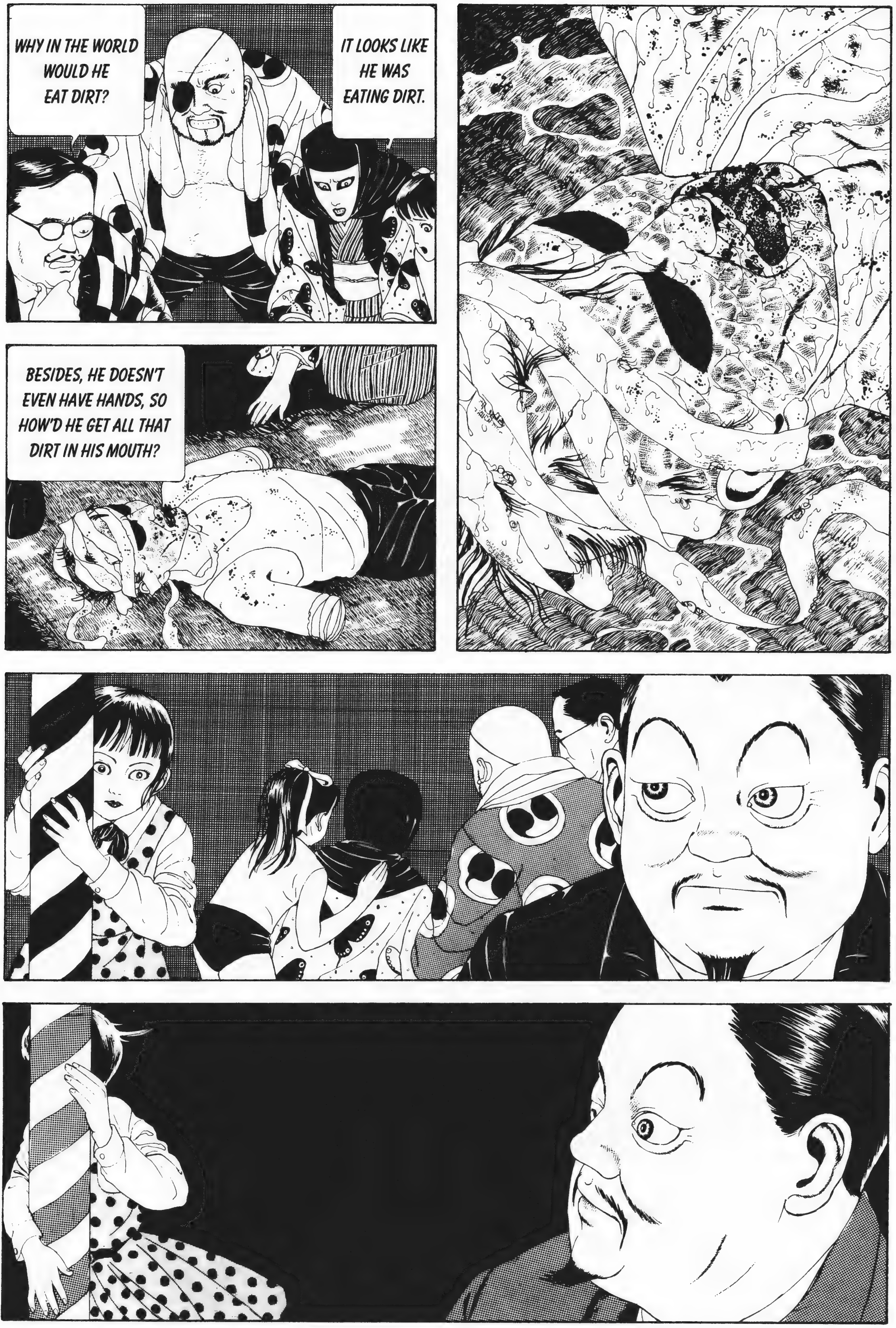

HELP... HELP!
WAAAAH!!

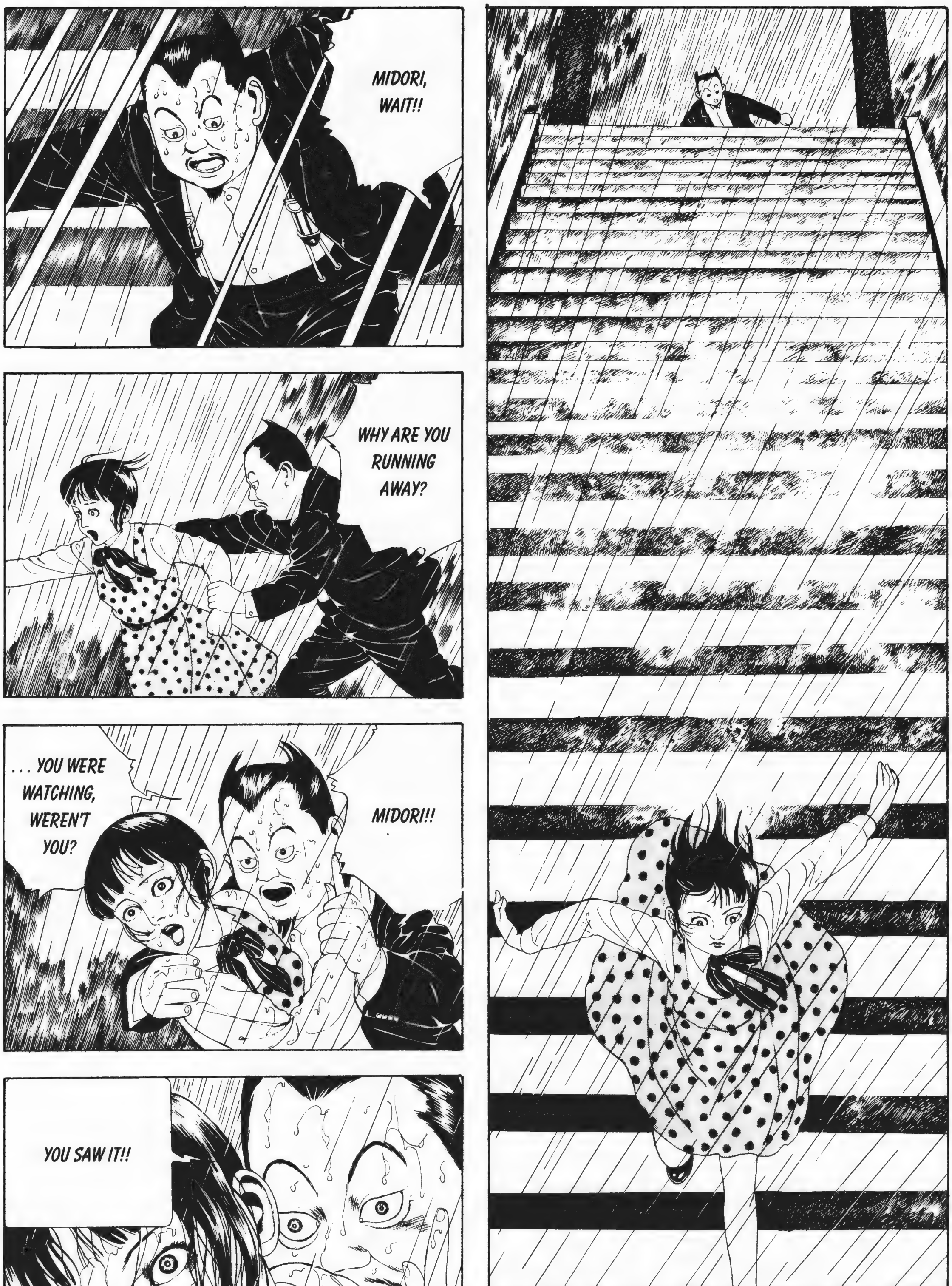

TAKE MY HAND.
WHO... WHO ARE YOU?
I AM YOU.

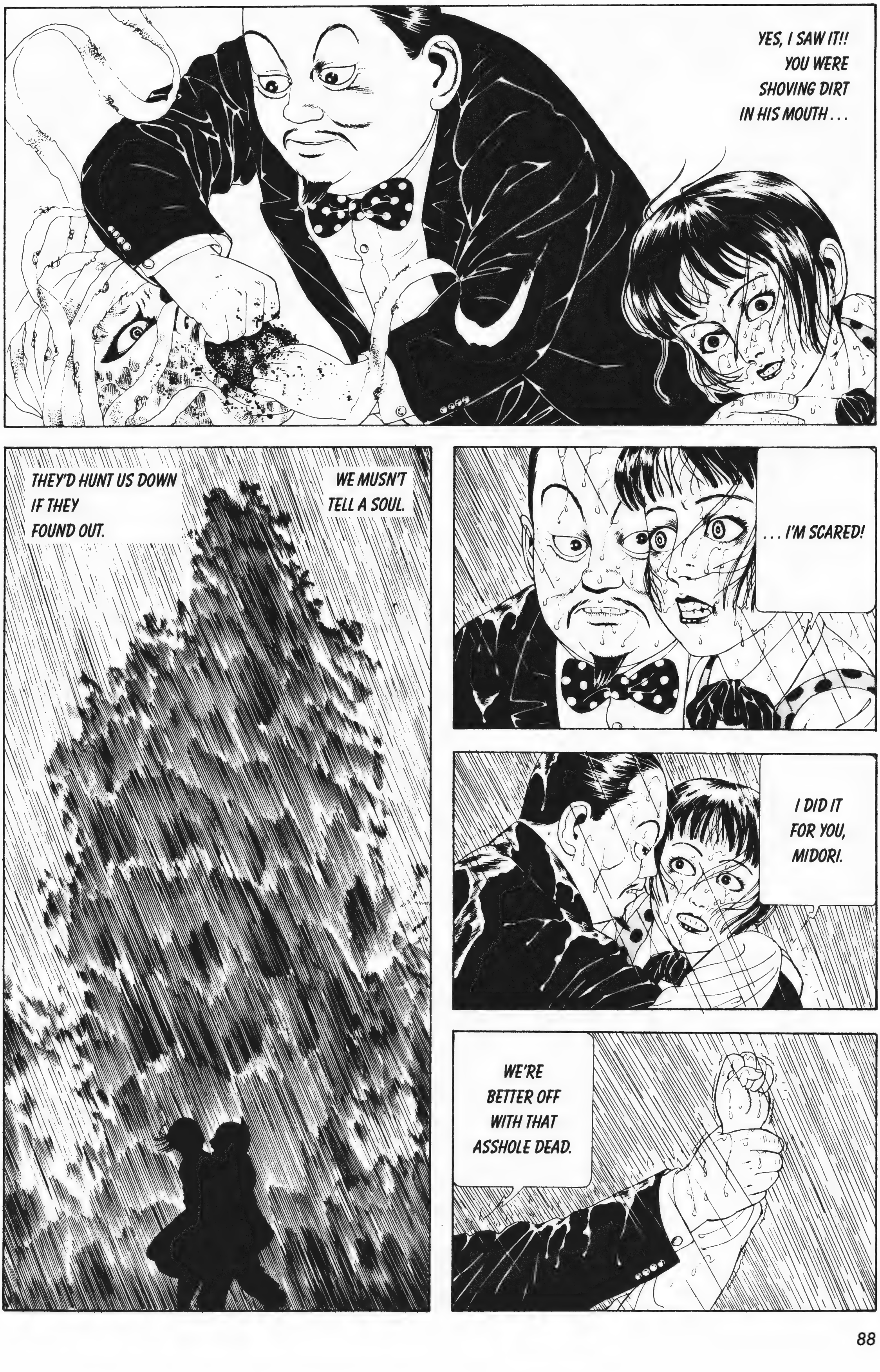

MA . . . MASAMITSU!!
NO. I AM YOU.
YOU BASTARD!
OH NO, I'M NOT FALLING FOR THAT TRICK.
ALL RIGHT, THEN YOU CAN GET OUT OF THAT HOLE BY YOURSELF.
MA . . .
ズ FSSH
HAVING SOME TROUBLE?
ズ FSSH
ズ SSH
ズ SSH
URGH . . . UMPH . . .
YOU'RE GOING TO SINK IF YOU DON'T DO SOMETHING QUICK.

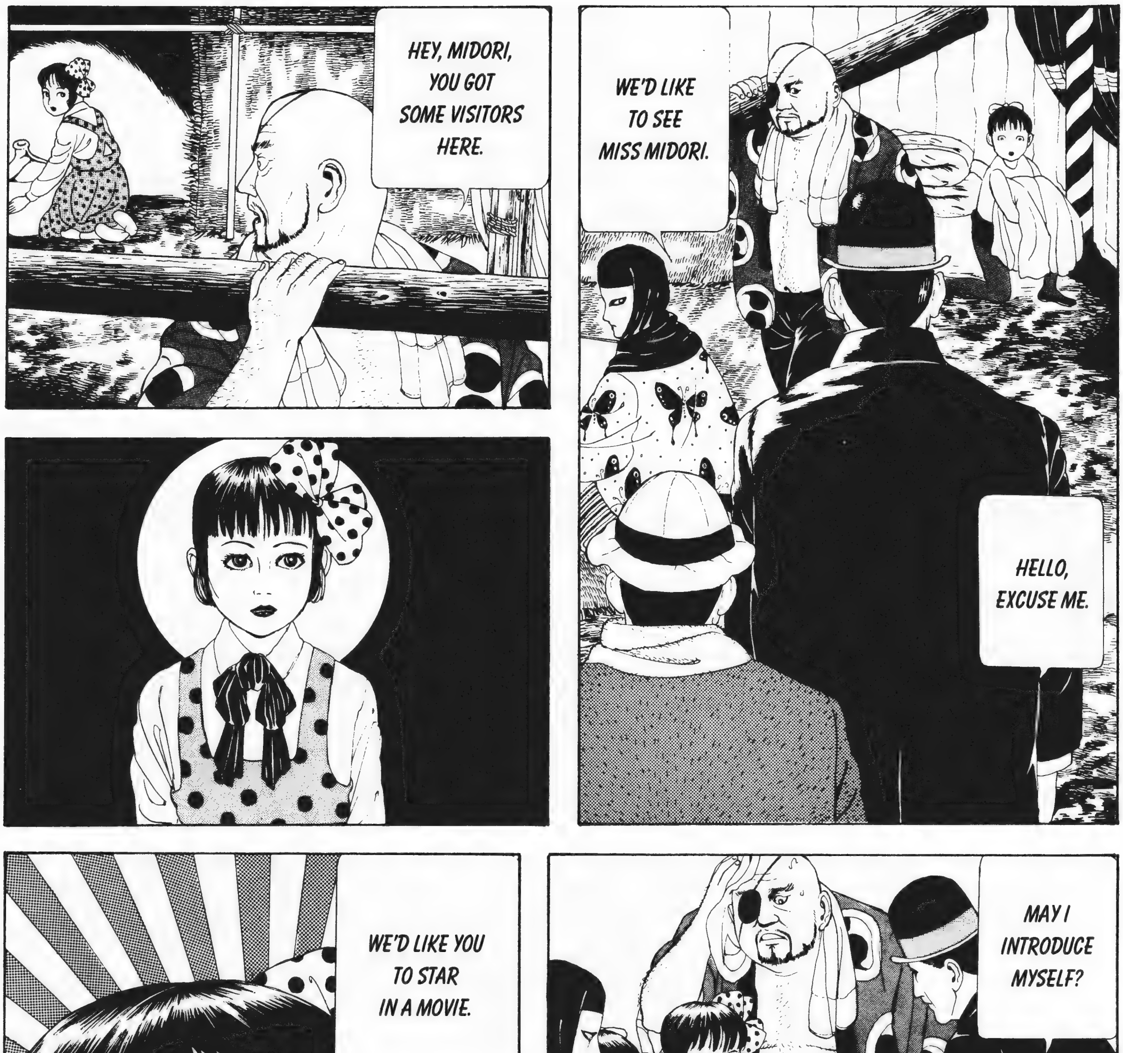

YOU DON'T HAVE HANDS, DO YOU?
OH, I'M SORRY.
THAT'S WHY YOU SHOULD TAKE MY HAND.
SEE, YOU CAN'T MAKE IT ON YOUR OWN.
UGH . . . I . . . CAN'T . . . BREATHE . . . HELP ME . . . UGH
UUUH . . .
YOU ASSHOLE.
DIE!!
HEL . . .

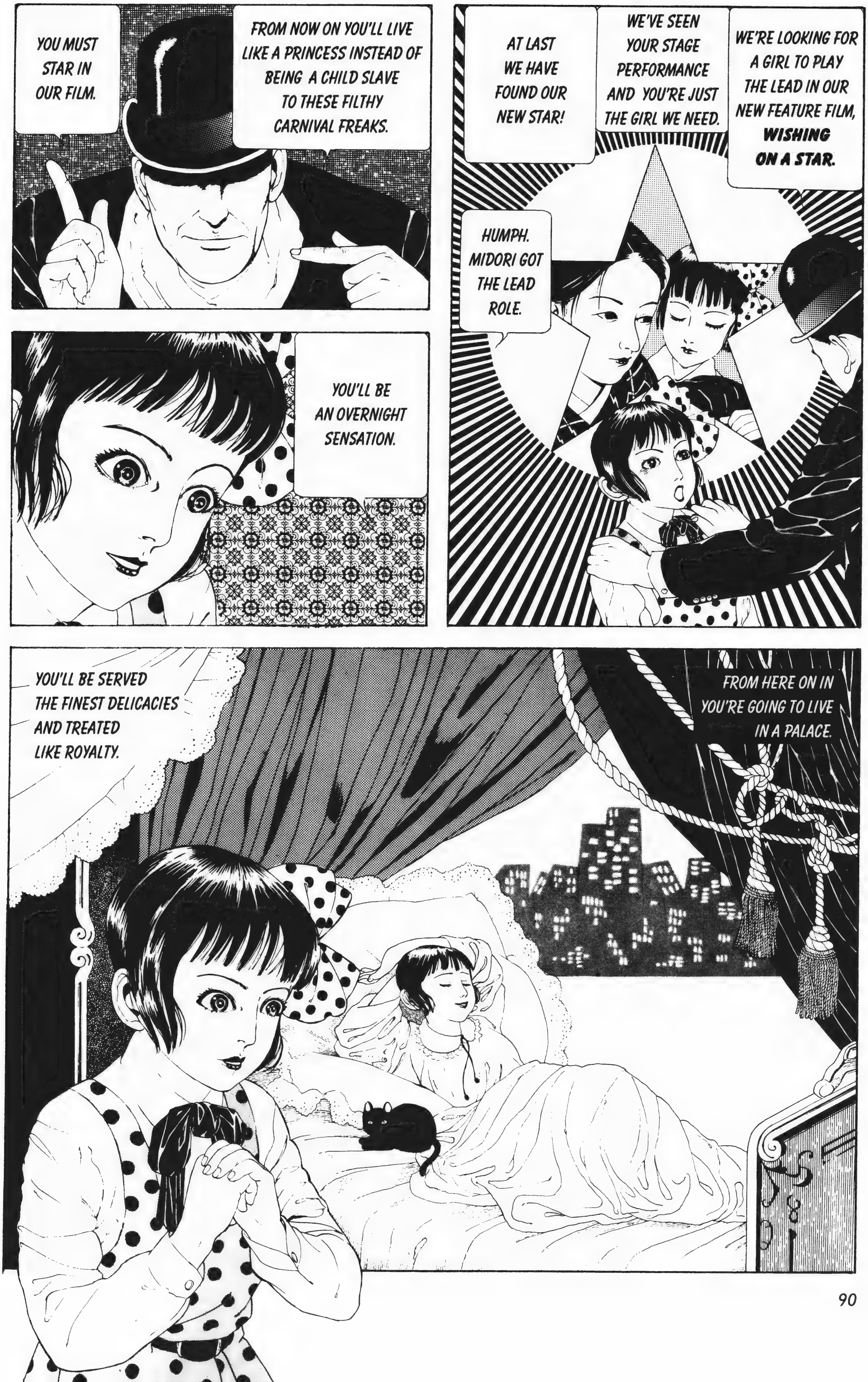

WOW! I GOT A RAISE!
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK.
ME TOO!
HEY, WHERE'S THE MUMMY MAN? SOMEBODY GO FIND HIM.

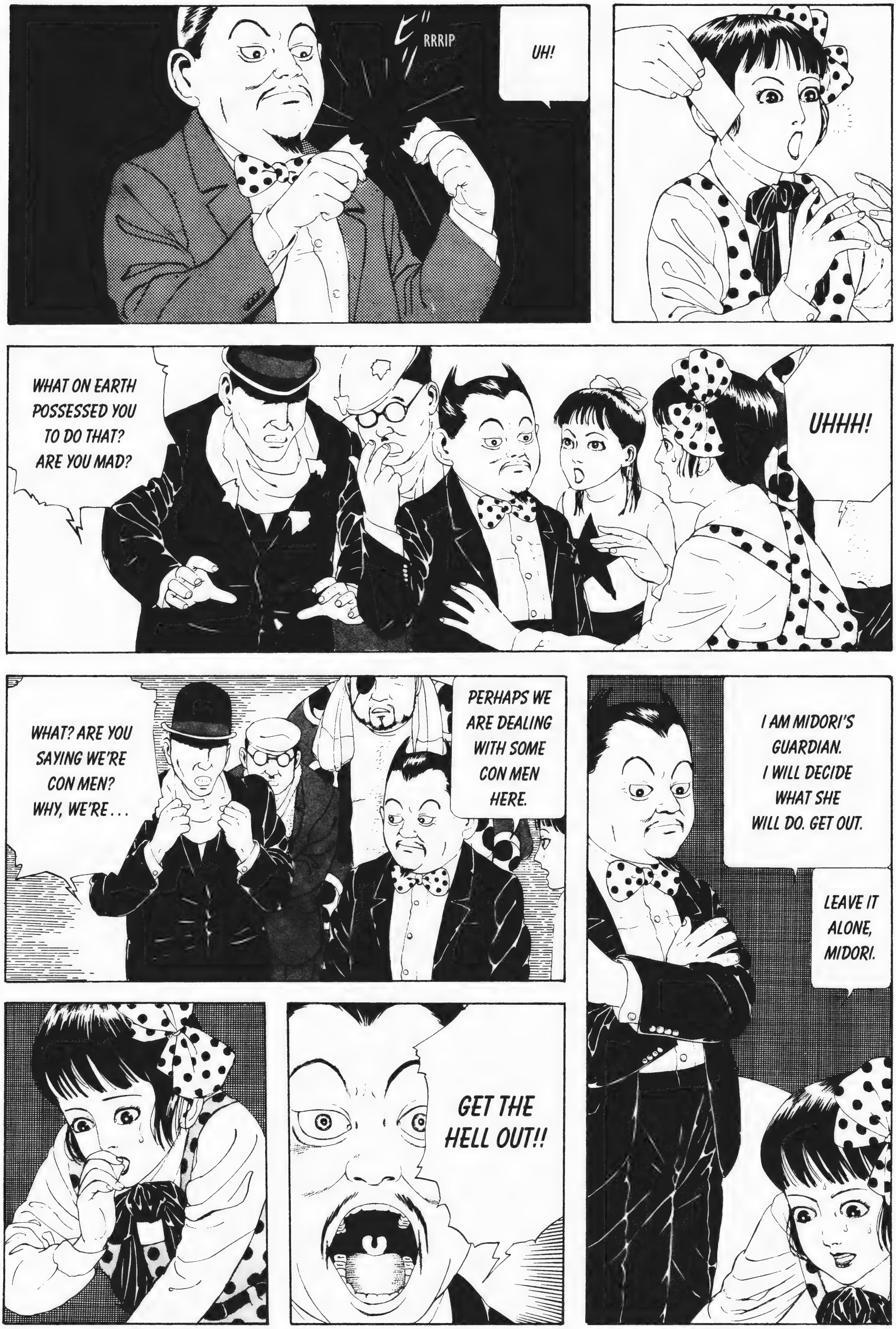

IT LOOKS LIKE HE WAS EATING DIRT.
WHY IN THE WORLD WOULD HE EAT DIRT?
BESIDES, HE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE HANDS, SO HOW'D HE GET ALL THAT DIRT IN HIS MOUTH?

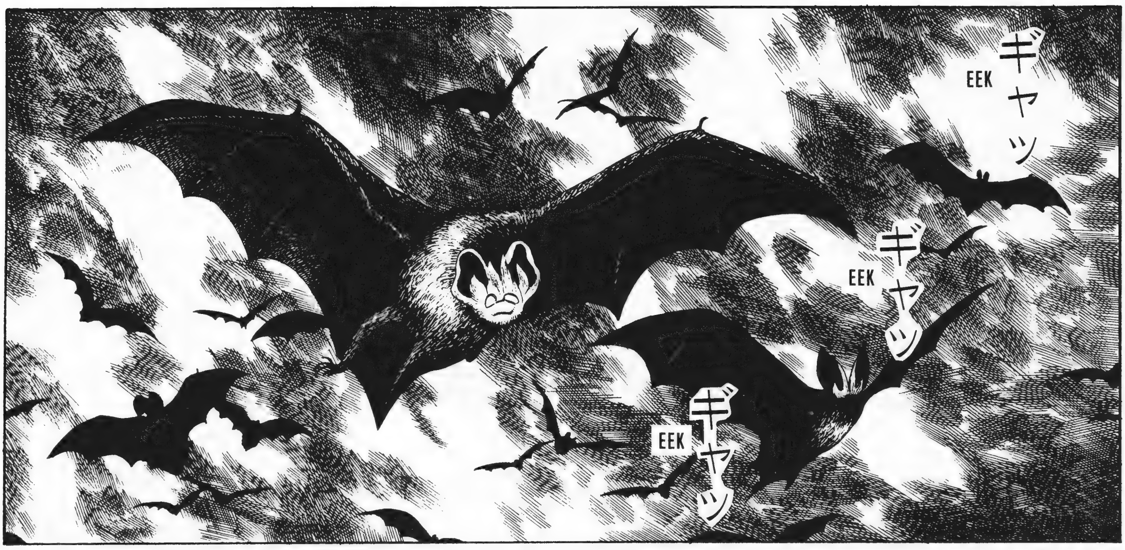

MIDORI, WAIT!!
WHY ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY?
MIDORI!!
. . . YOU WERE WATCHING, WEREN'T YOU?
YOU SAW IT!!

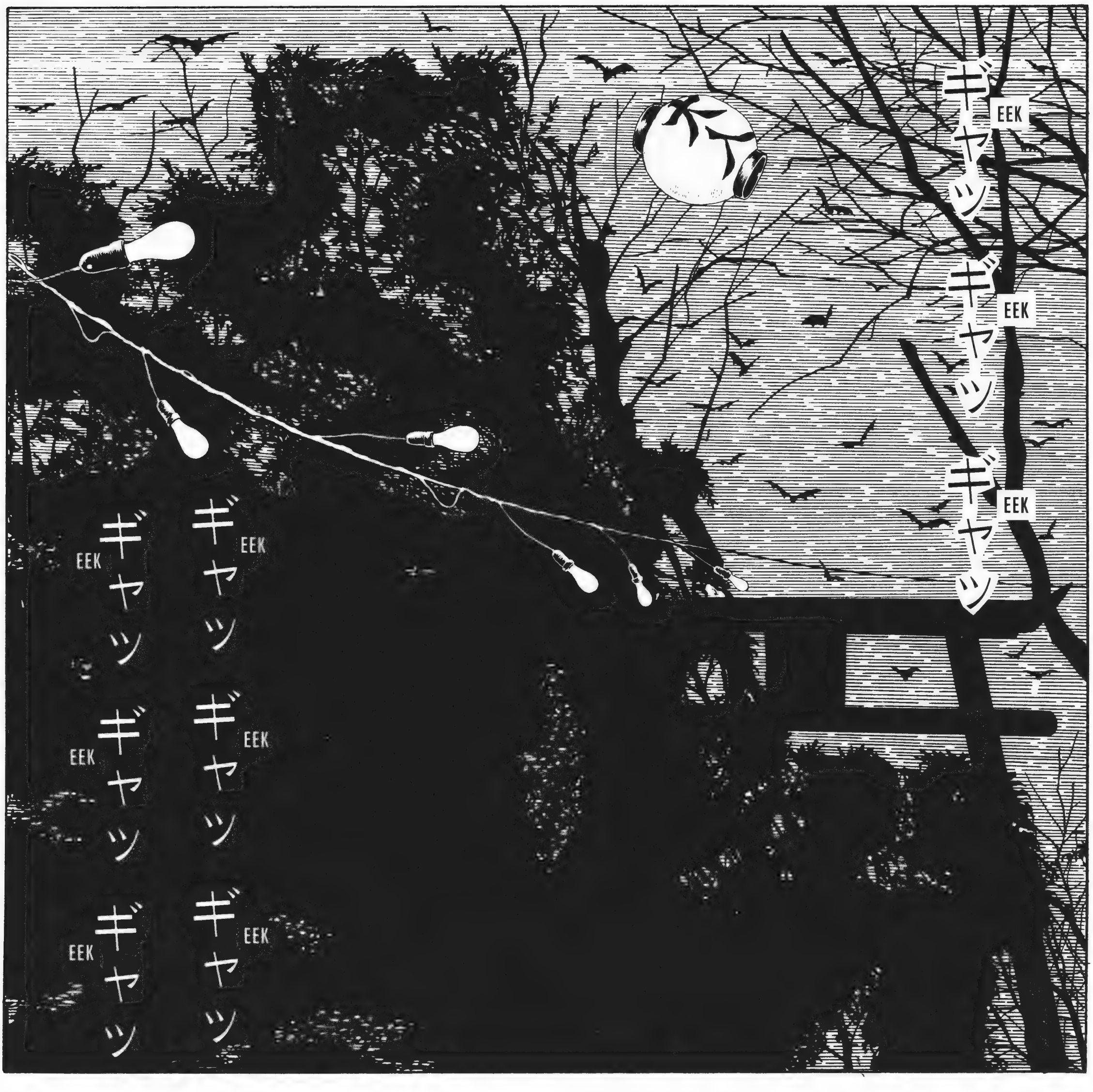

YES, I SAW IT!! YOU WERE SHOVING DIRT IN HIS MOUTH . . .
. . . I'M SCARED!
I DID IT FOR YOU, MIDORI.
WE'RE BETTER OFF WITH THAT ASSHOLE DEAD.
WE MUSN'T TELL A SOUL.
THEY'D HUNT US DOWN IF THEY FOUND OUT.


HELLO, EXCUSE ME.
WE'D LIKE TO SEE MISS MIDORI.
HEY, MIDORI, YOU GOT SOME VISITORS HERE.
MAY I INTRODUCE MYSELF?
WE'D LIKE YOU TO STAR IN A MOVIE.
THE MOVIES!!
WOW! SHOCHIKU STUDIOS!


WE'RE LOOKING FOR A GIRL TO PLAY THE LEAD IN OUR NEW FEATURE FILM, **WISHING ON A STAR.**
WE'VE SEEN YOUR STAGE PERFORMANCE AND YOU'RE JUST THE GIRL WE NEED.
AT LAST WE HAVE FOUND OUR NEW STAR!
HUMPH. MIDORI GOT THE LEAD ROLE.
FROM NOW ON YOU'LL LIVE LIKE A PRINCESS INSTEAD OF BEING A CHILD SLAVE TO THESE FILTHY CARNIVAL FREAKS.
YOU MUST STAR IN OUR FILM.
YOU'LL BE AN OVERNIGHT SENSATION.
FROM HERE ON IN YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE IN A PALACE.
YOU'LL BE SERVED THE FINEST DELICACIES AND TREATED LIKE ROYALTY.


ビ RRRIP
UH!
WHAT ON EARTH POSSESSED YOU TO DO THAT? ARE YOU MAD?
UHHH!
PERHAPS WE ARE DEALING WITH SOME CON MEN HERE.
WHAT? ARE YOU SAYING WE'RE CON MEN? WHY, WE'RE . . .
I AM MIDORI'S GUARDIAN. I WILL DECIDE WHAT SHE WILL DO. GET OUT.
LEAVE IT ALONE, MIDORI.
GET THE HELL OUT!!


ギャッ
EEK
ギャッ
EEK
ギャッ
EEK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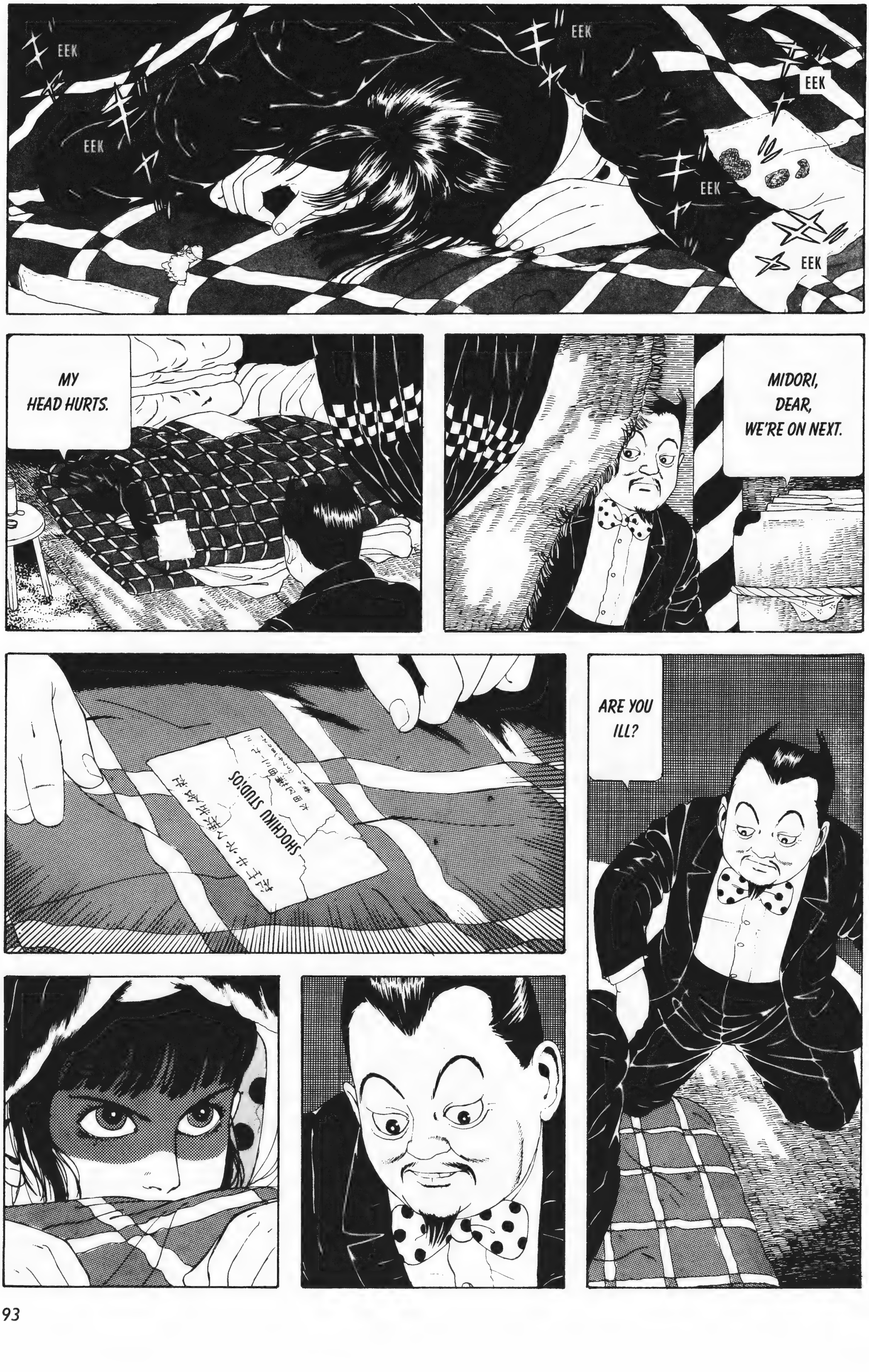
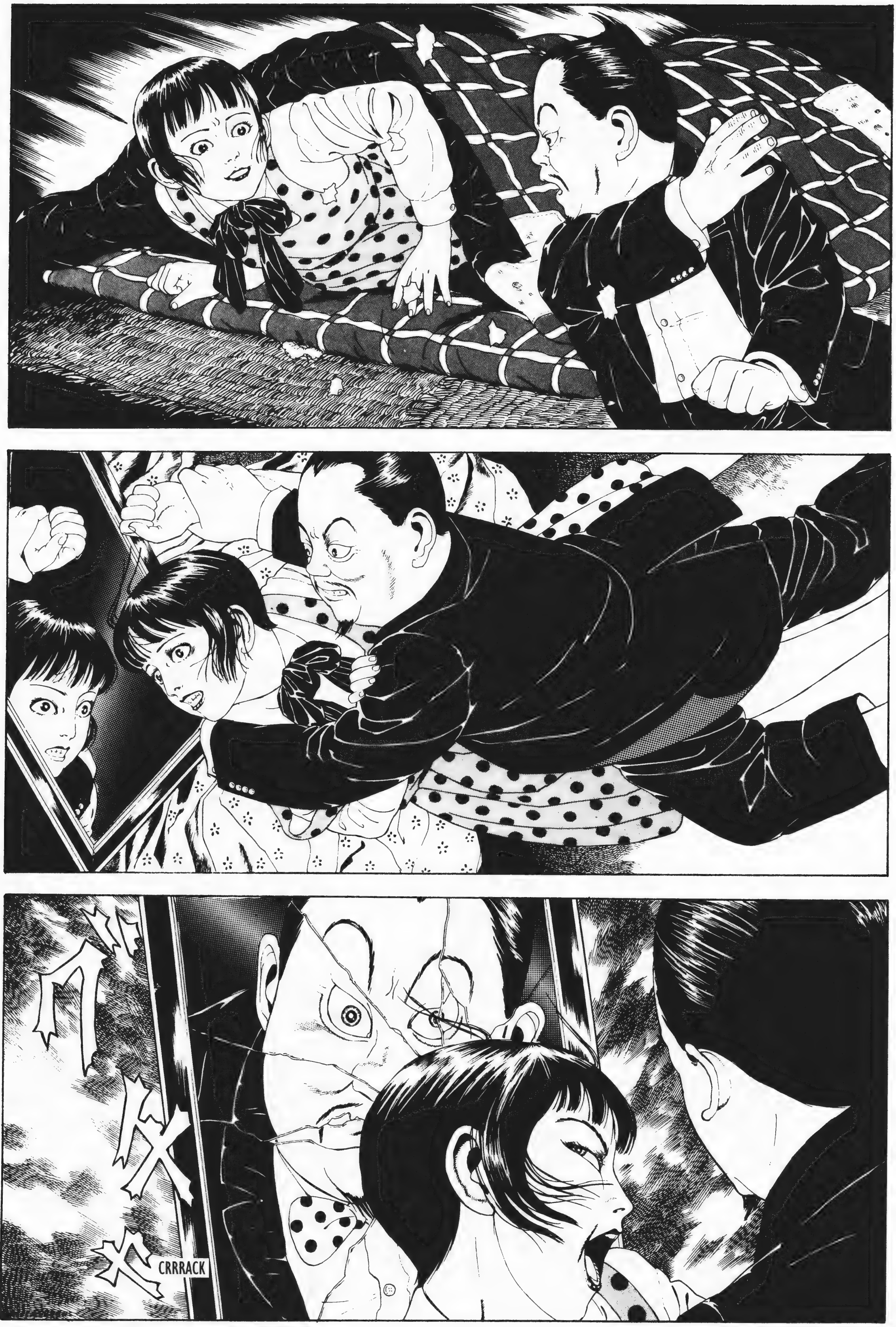

EEK
EEK
EEK
EEK
EEK
EEK
MIDORI, DEAR, WE'RE ON NEXT.
MY HEAD HURTS.
ARE YOU ILL?
SHOCHIKU STUDIOS

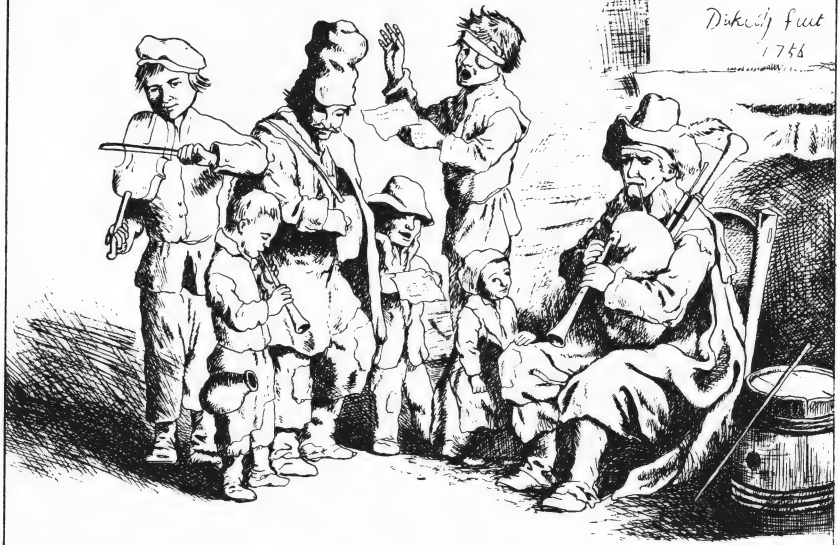

CRRRACK

CHAPTER SIX

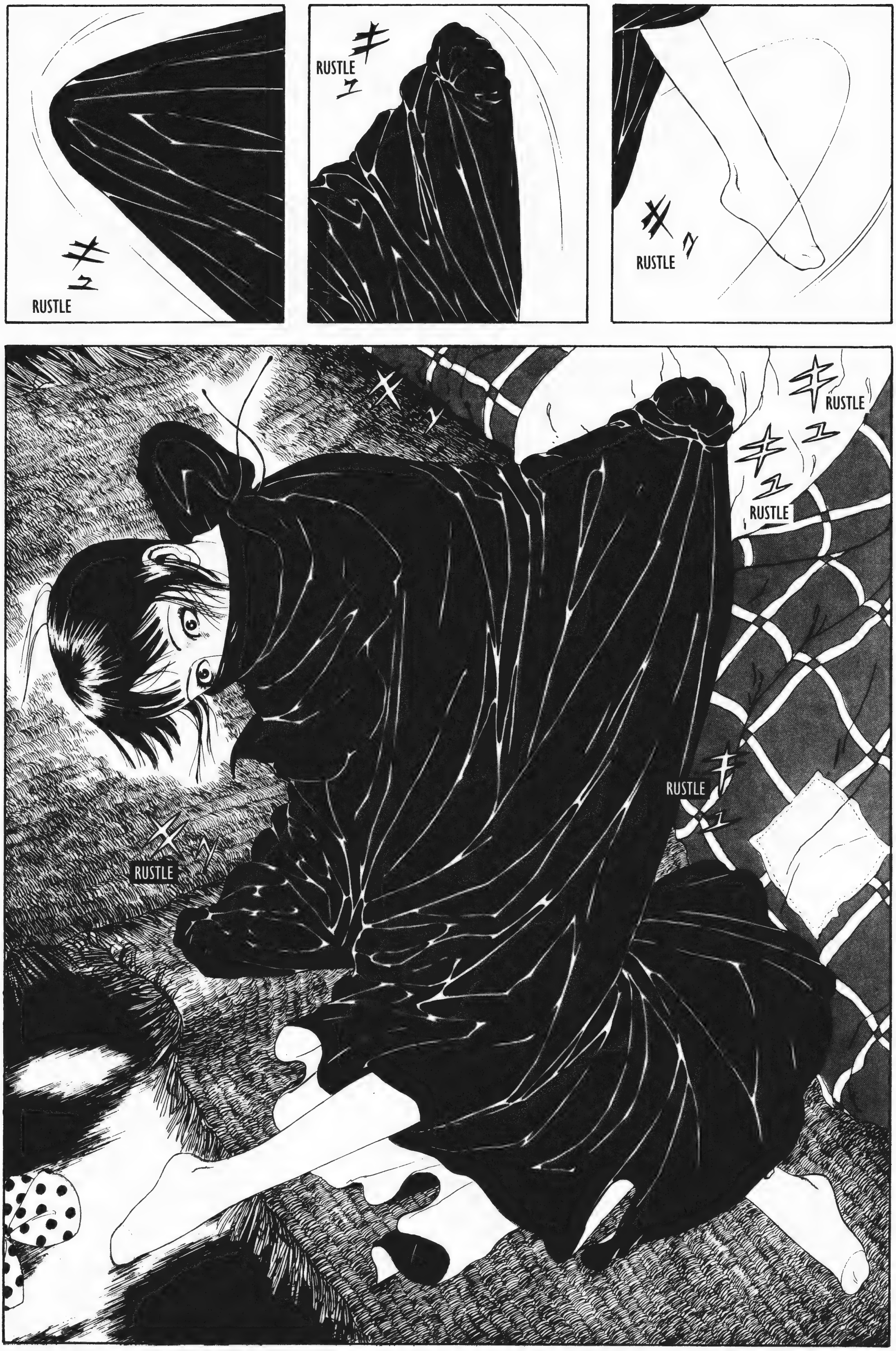
THE RECKONING

Geld um Ehre nehmen!!

DIGNITY FOR SALE



- Mule-Faced Woman
- Glomming Geek
- Human Torch
- Alligator Lady
- Amazon Giantess
- Sword Swallower
- Human Pincushion
- Big Bertha
- Pin-Headed Boy
- Confounding Contortionist
- Fish-Faced Girl
- Hermaphrodite
- Pickled Punk
- Mesmer the Mentalist
- Double-Bodied Wonder
- Iron-Tongued Marvel
- Four-Legged Girl
- Third-Sex Family
- Frog Boy
- Headless Girl
- Tattooed Marvel
- Fire Eater
- Eighth Wonder of the World
- Snake Charmer
- Triple-Jointed Dwarf
- Dog-Faced Woman
- Mammoth Maniac
- Windbag Man
- Gargantua
- Blockhead
- Popeye
- Pretzel Man
- Pig-Faced Lady
- Human Cannonball
- Eighty-Year-Old Boy
- Anatomical Wonder
- The Human Lightning Rod
- Amazing Memory Man
- Cloven-Hoofed Girl
- Perplexing Prestidigitateur
- Herculean Hulk
- Incombustible Woman
- Fire King
- Stone Eater
- The Human Aquarium
- Le Pétomane
- Man with X-Ray Eyes
- Fire Walker
- Mermaid Baby
- Horned Woman
- Armless Wonder
- Iron-Neck Phenomenon
- Two-Faced Man
- The Human Knot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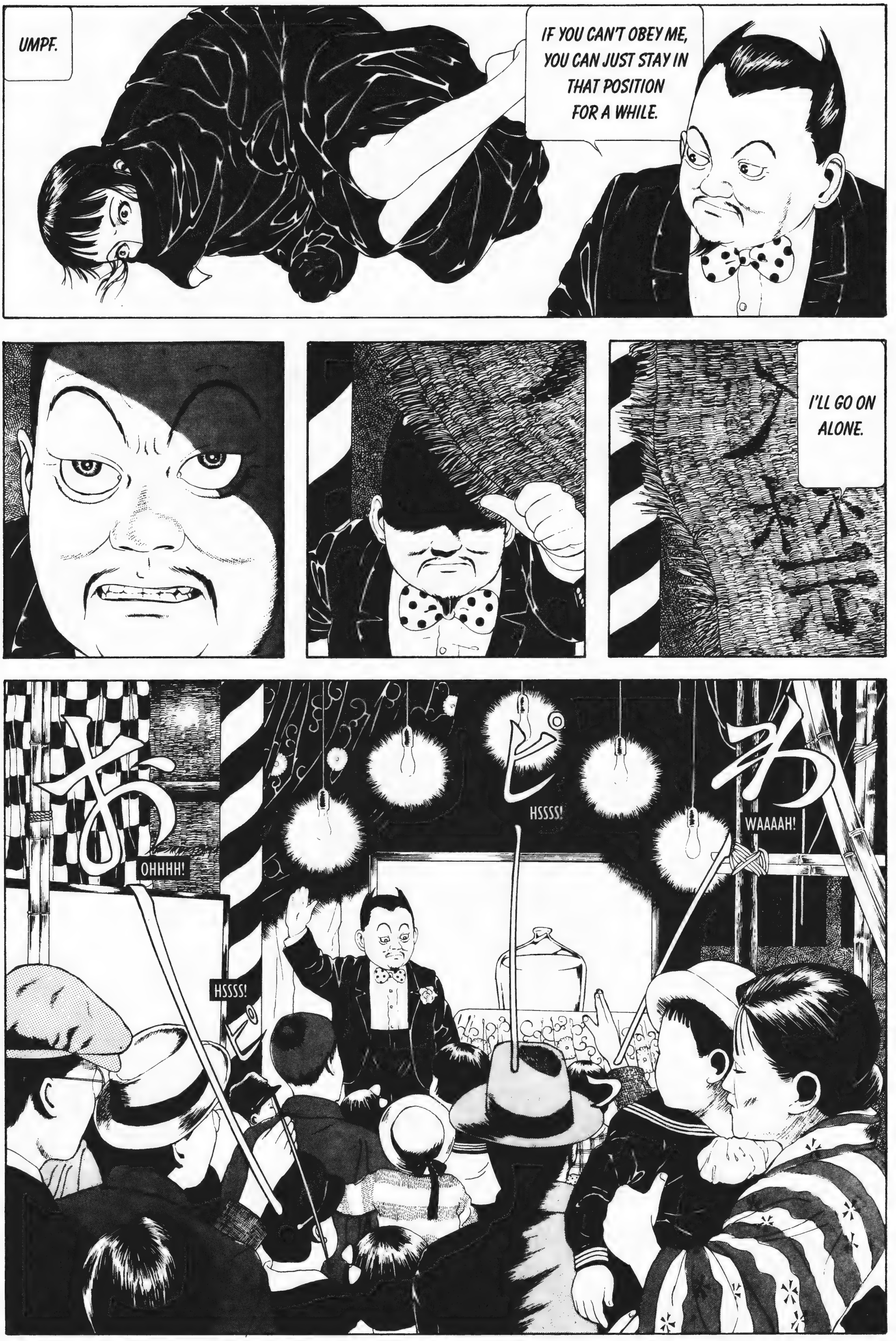
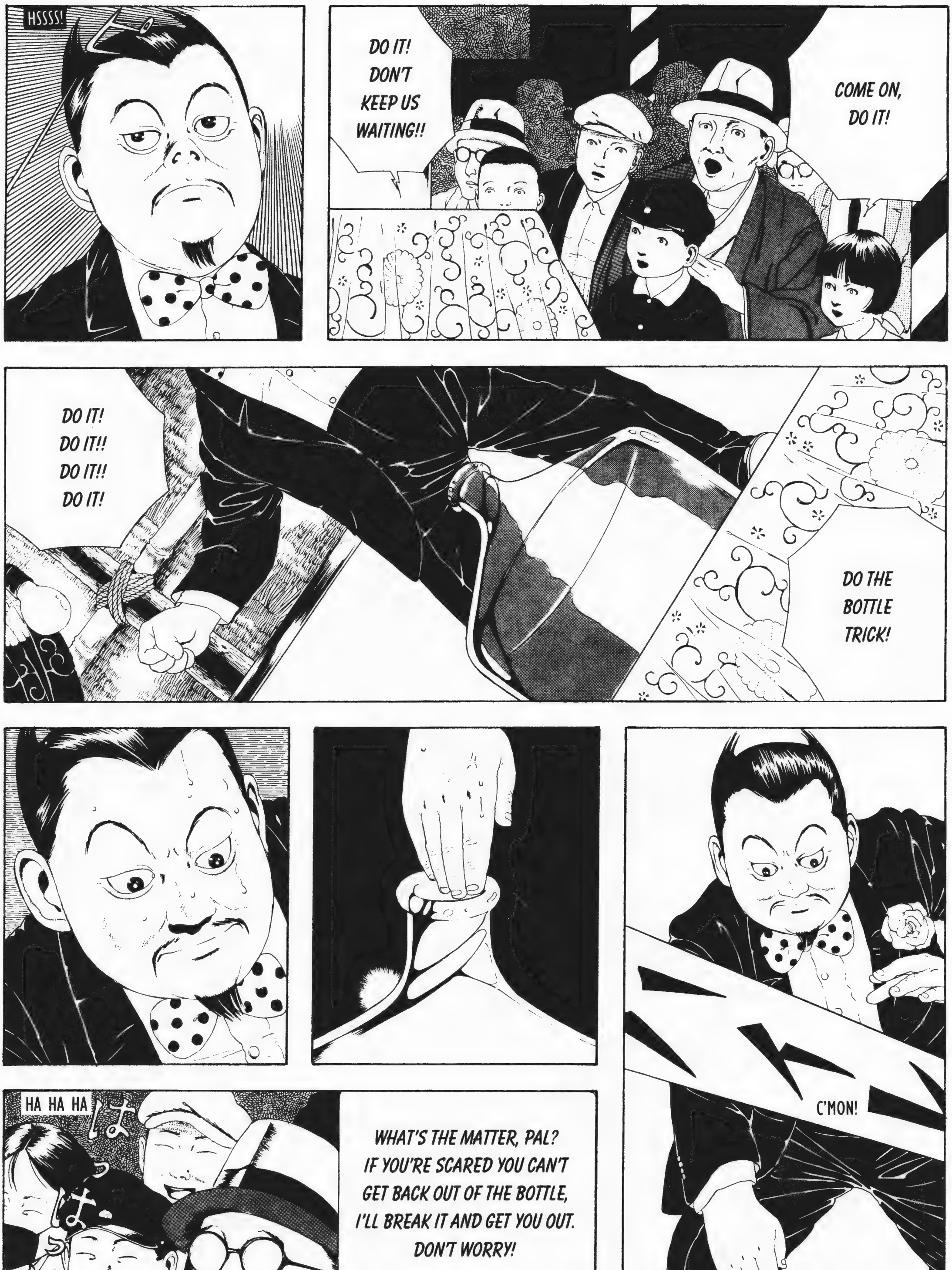
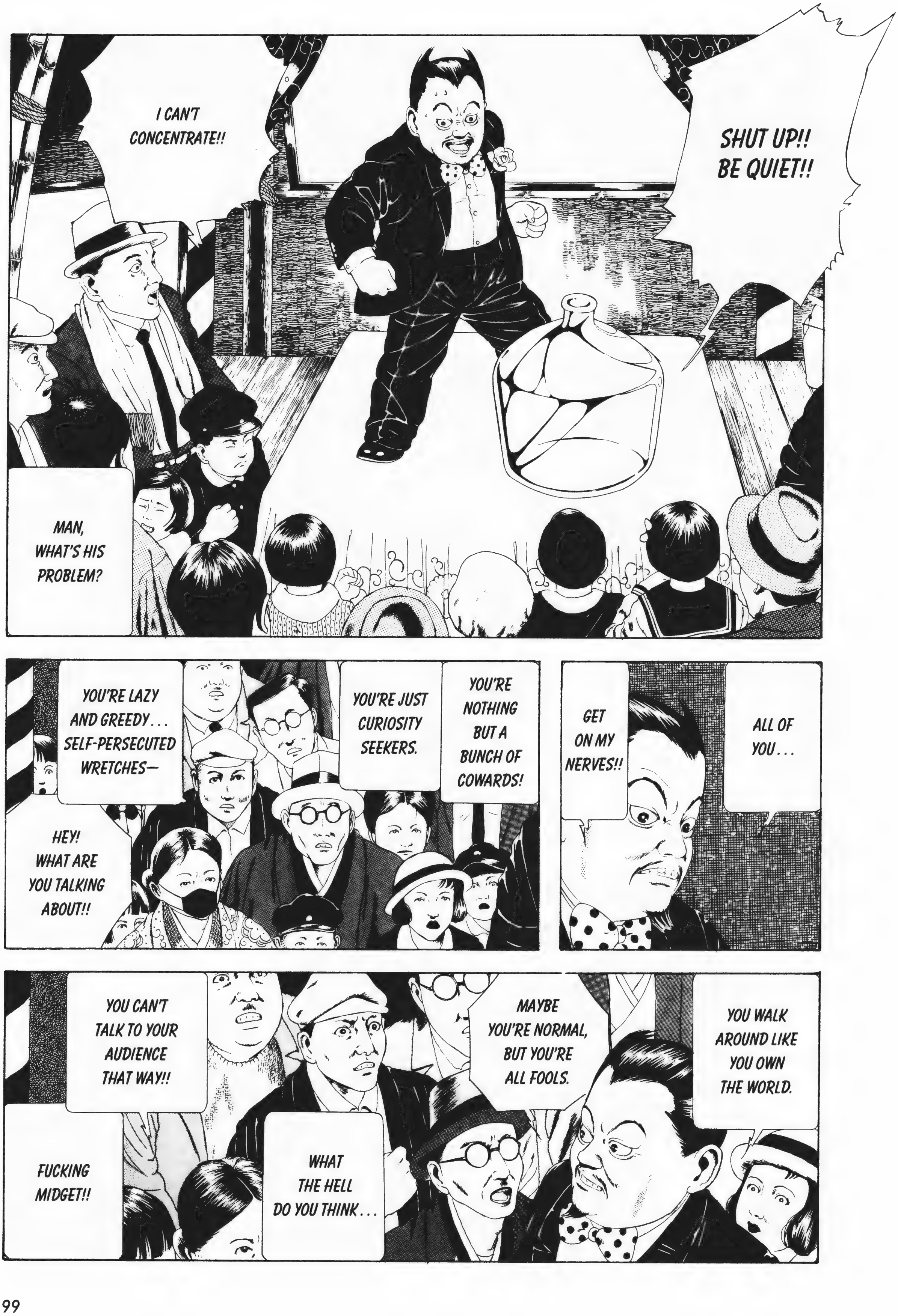
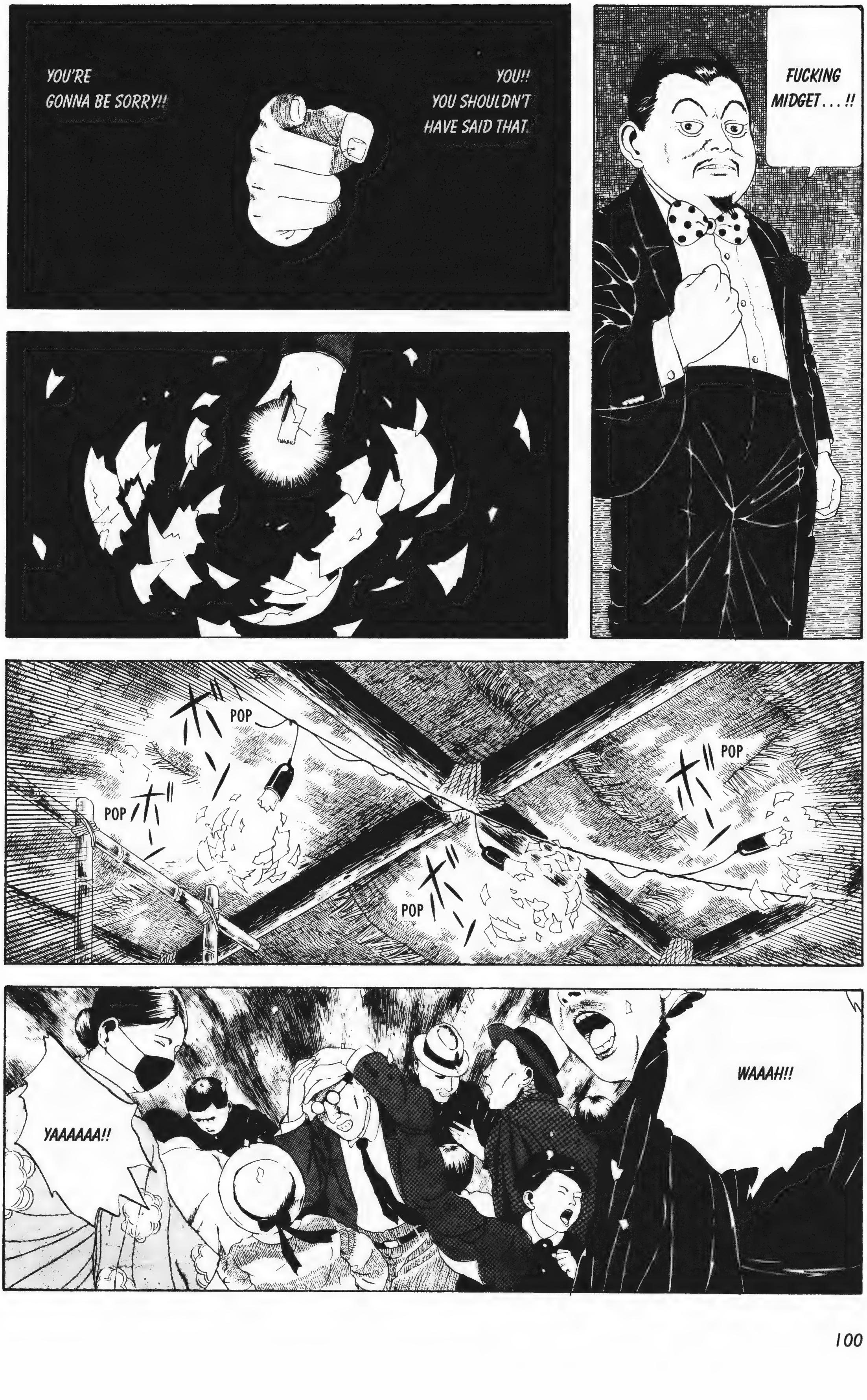
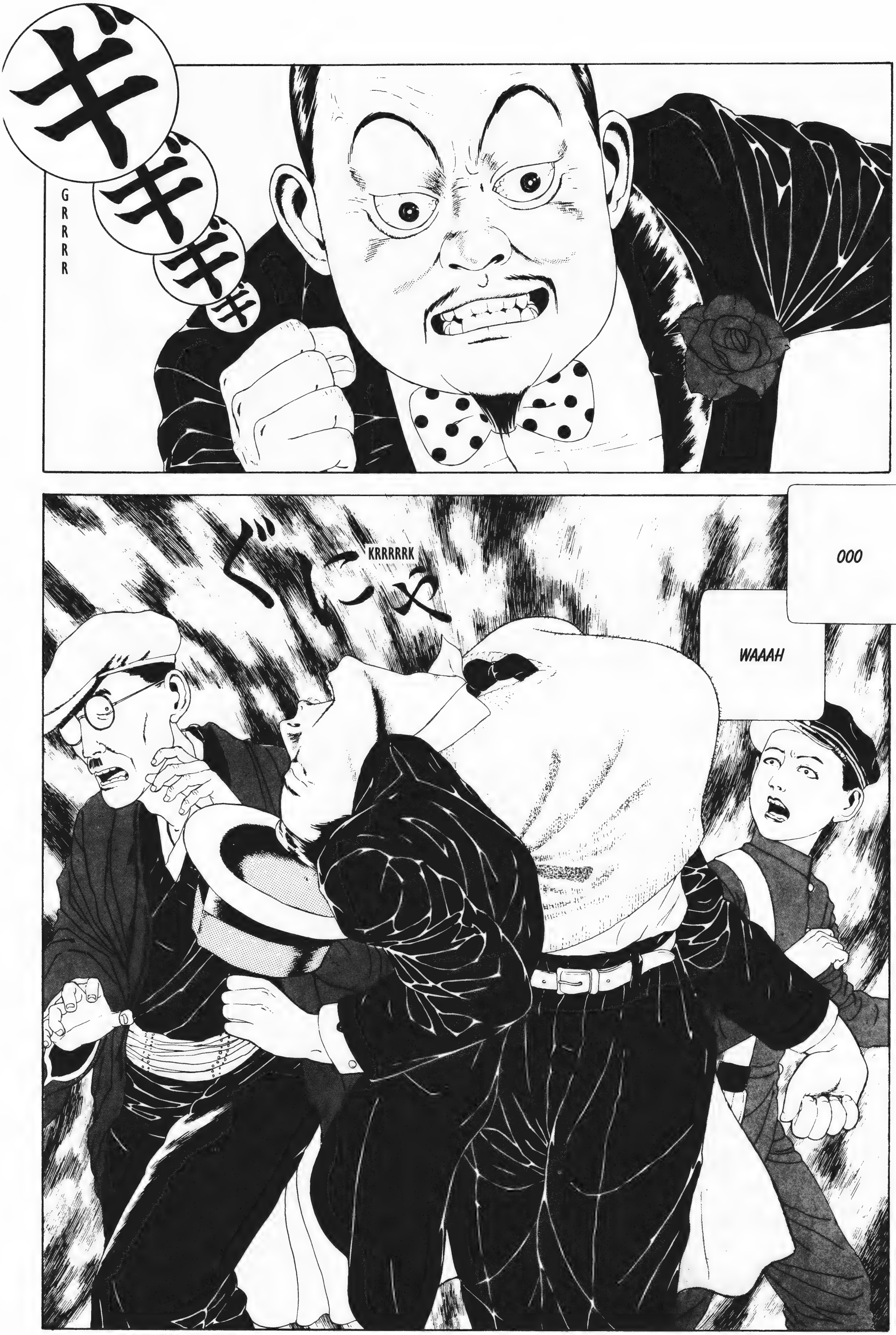
RUSTLE

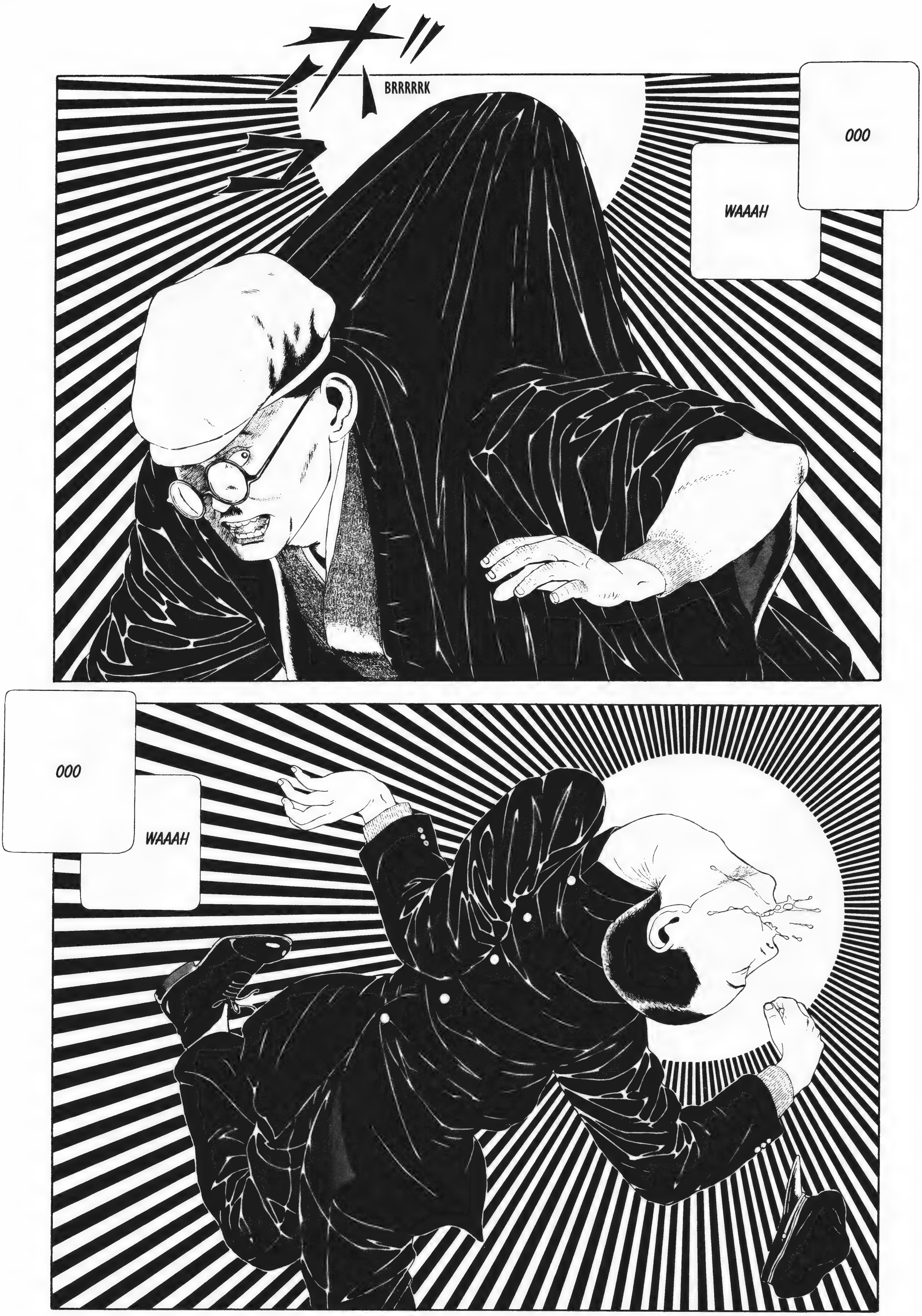

IF YOU CAN'T OBEY ME, YOU CAN JUST STAY IN THAT POSITION FOR A WHILE.
UMPF.
I'LL GO ON ALONE.
わ
WAAAAH!
ピ
HSSSS!
あ
OHHHH!
HSSSS!

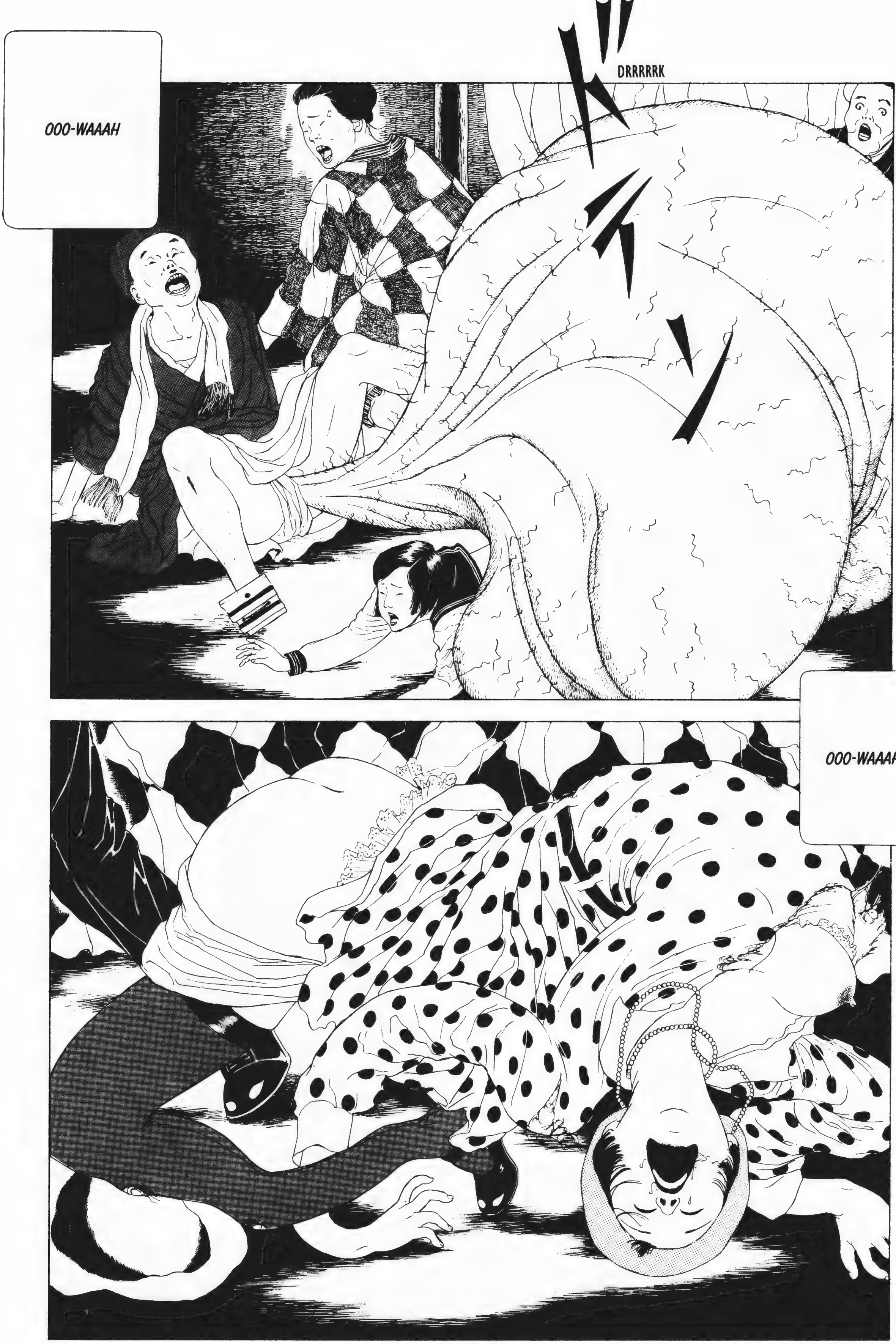

COME ON, DO IT!
DO IT! DON'T KEEP US WAITING!!
HSSSS!
DO THE BOTTLE TRICK!
DO IT! DO IT!! DO IT!! DO IT!
C'MON!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, PAL? IF YOU'RE SCARED YOU CAN'T GET BACK OUT OF THE BOTTLE, I'LL BREAK IT AND GET YOU OUT. DON'T WORRY!
HA HA HA
はっはっは

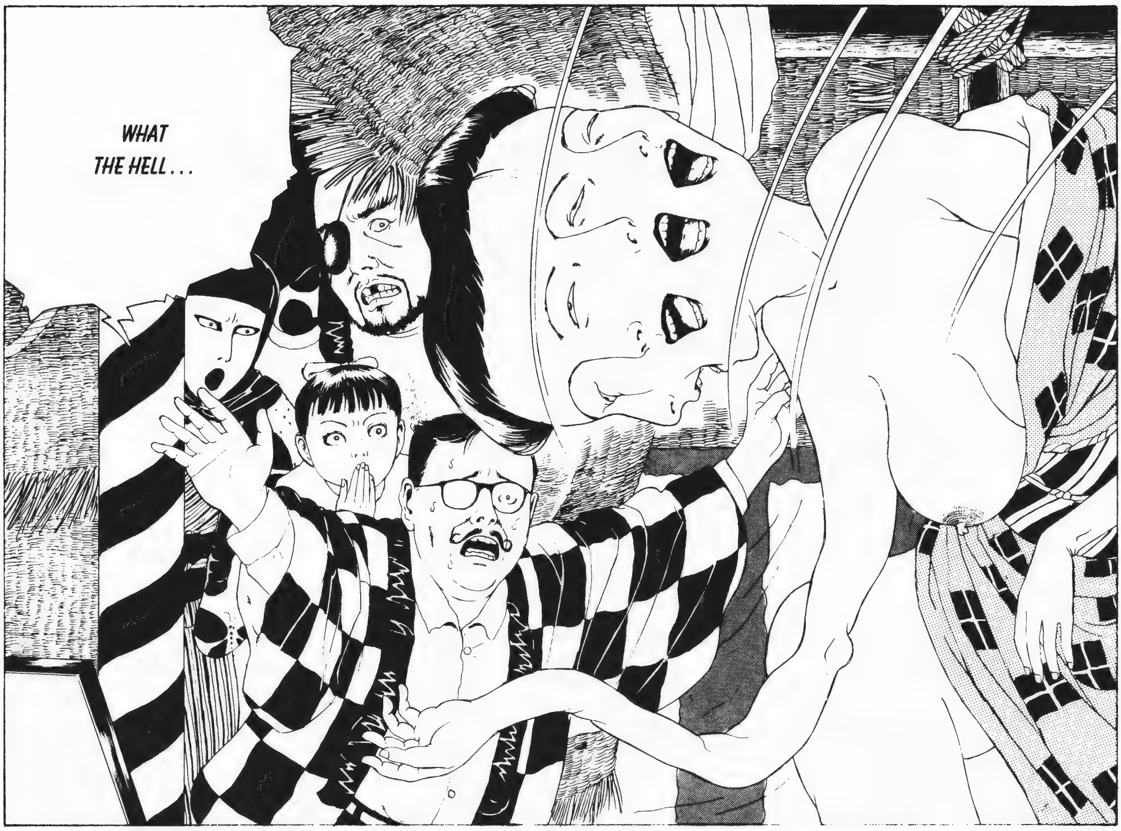

SHUT UP!! BE QUIET!!
I CAN'T CONCENTRATE!!
MAN, WHAT'S HIS PROBLEM?
ALL OF YOU . . .
GET ON MY NERVES!!
YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A BUNCH OF COWARDS!
YOU'RE JUST CURIOSITY SEEKERS.
YOU'RE LAZY AND GREEDY . . . SELF-PERSECUTED WRETCHES—
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!!
YOU WALK AROUND LIKE YOU OWN THE WORLD.
MAYBE YOU'RE NORMAL, BUT YOU'RE ALL FOOLS.
YOU CAN'T TALK TO YOUR AUDIENCE THAT WAY!!
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK . . .
FUCKING MIDGET!!

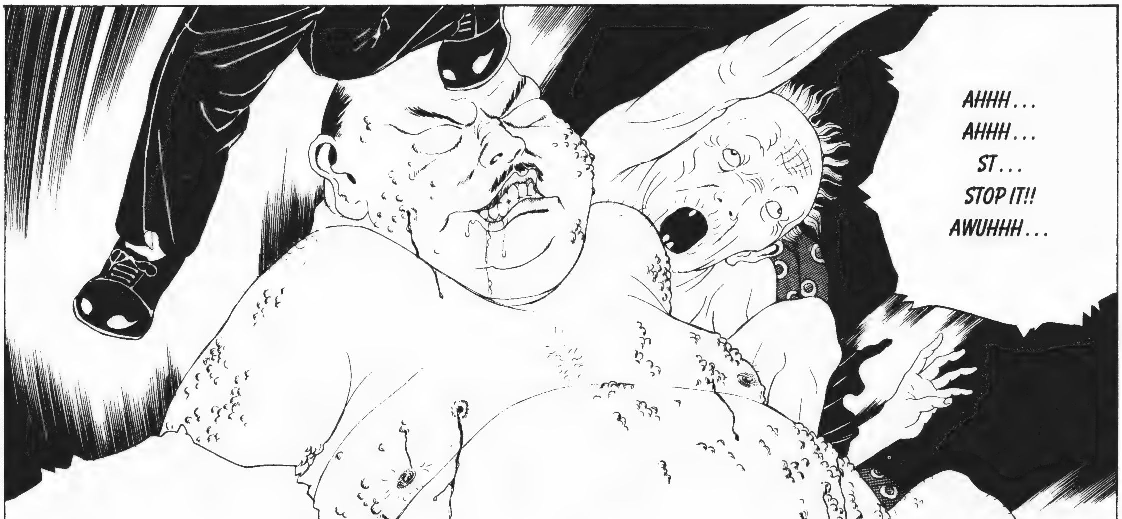

FUCKING MIDGET . . . !!
YOU!! YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID THAT.
YOU'RE GONNA BE SORRY!!
POP
POP
POP
POP
WAAAH!!
YAAAAAA!!

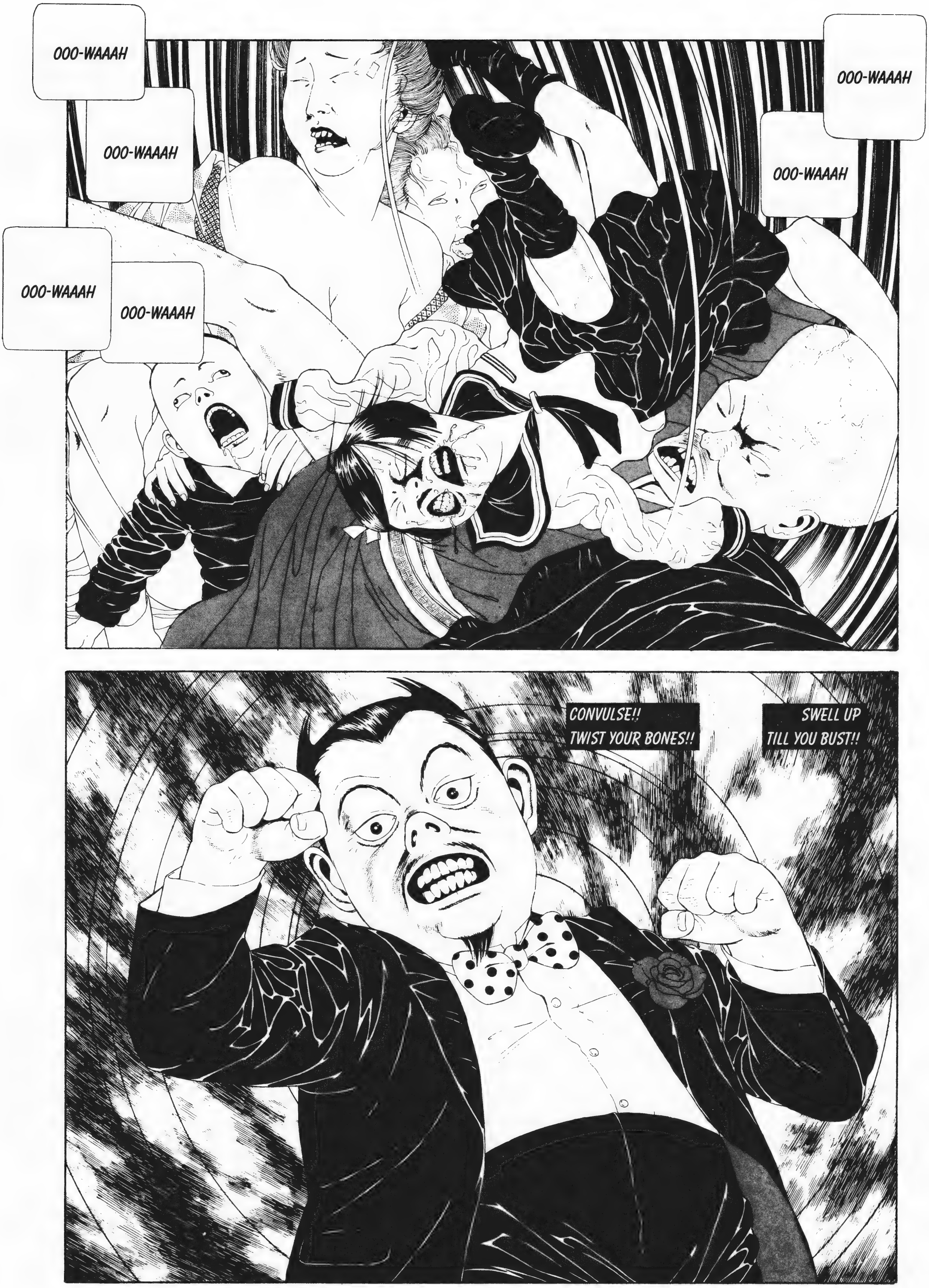

ギギギギ
GRRRR
OOO
WAAAH
ぐにゃ
KRRRRRK

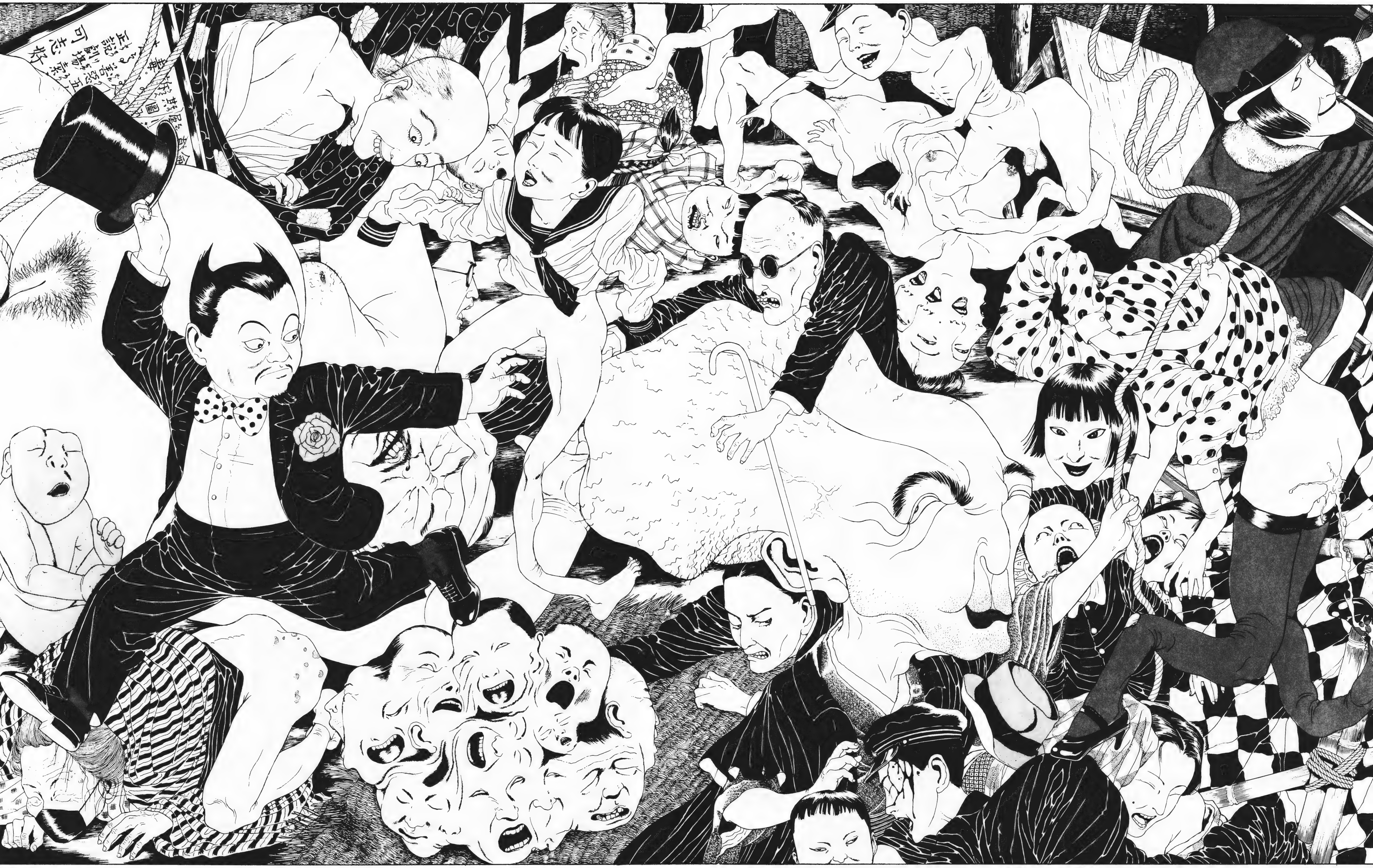

BRRRRRK
OOO
WAAAH
OOO
WAAAH

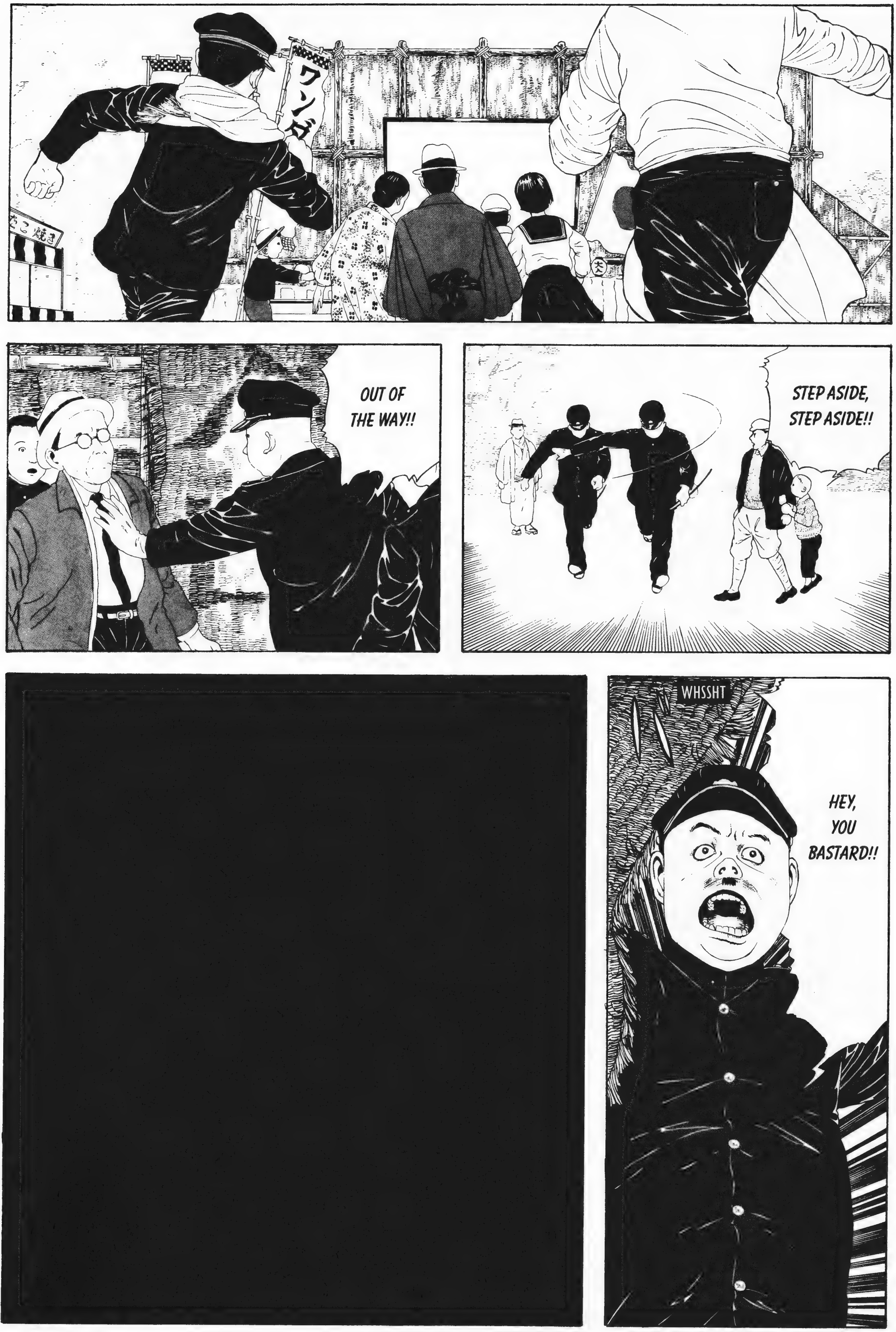

OOO-WAAAH
DRRRRRK
OOO-WAAAH

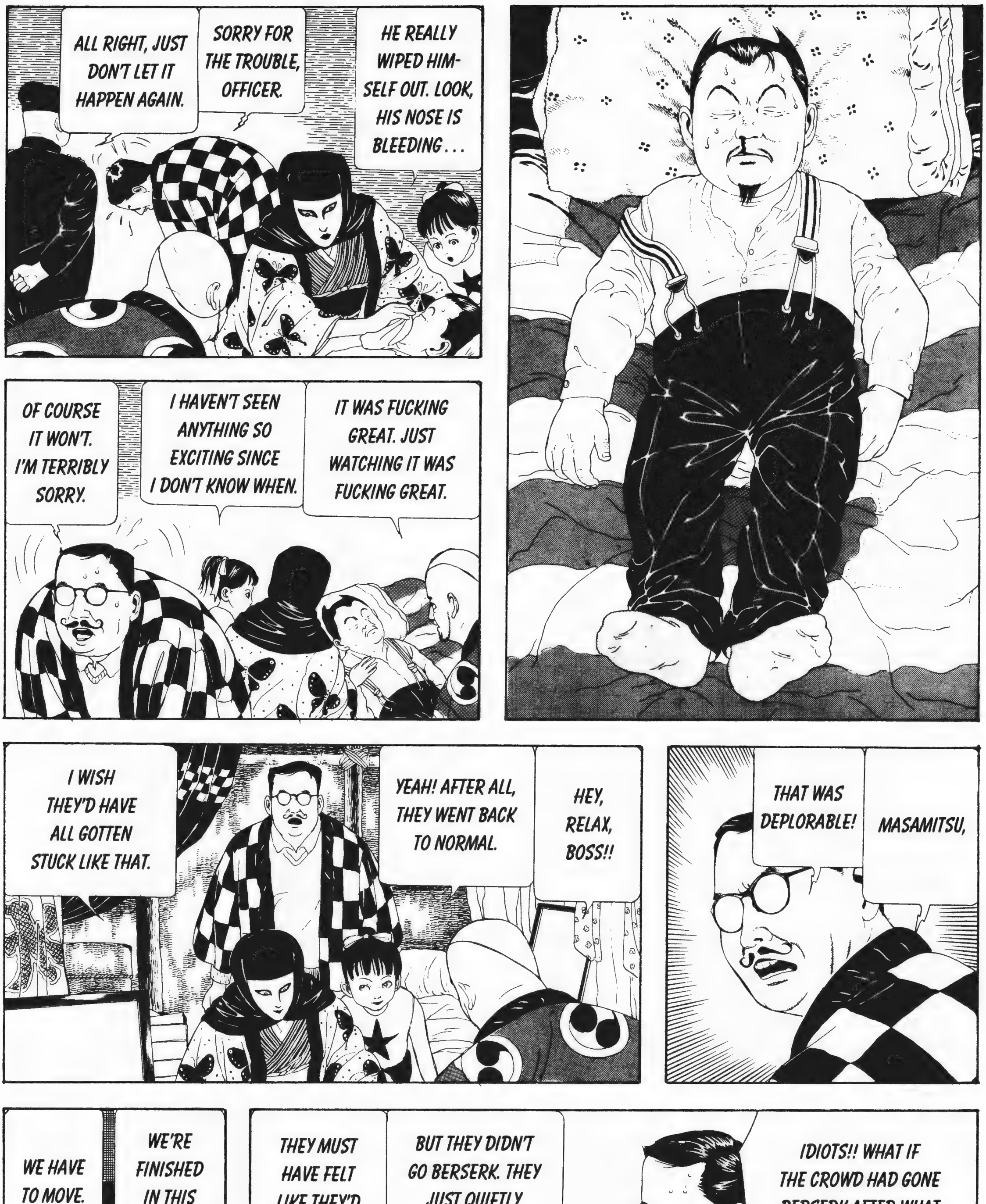

WHAT THE HELL...

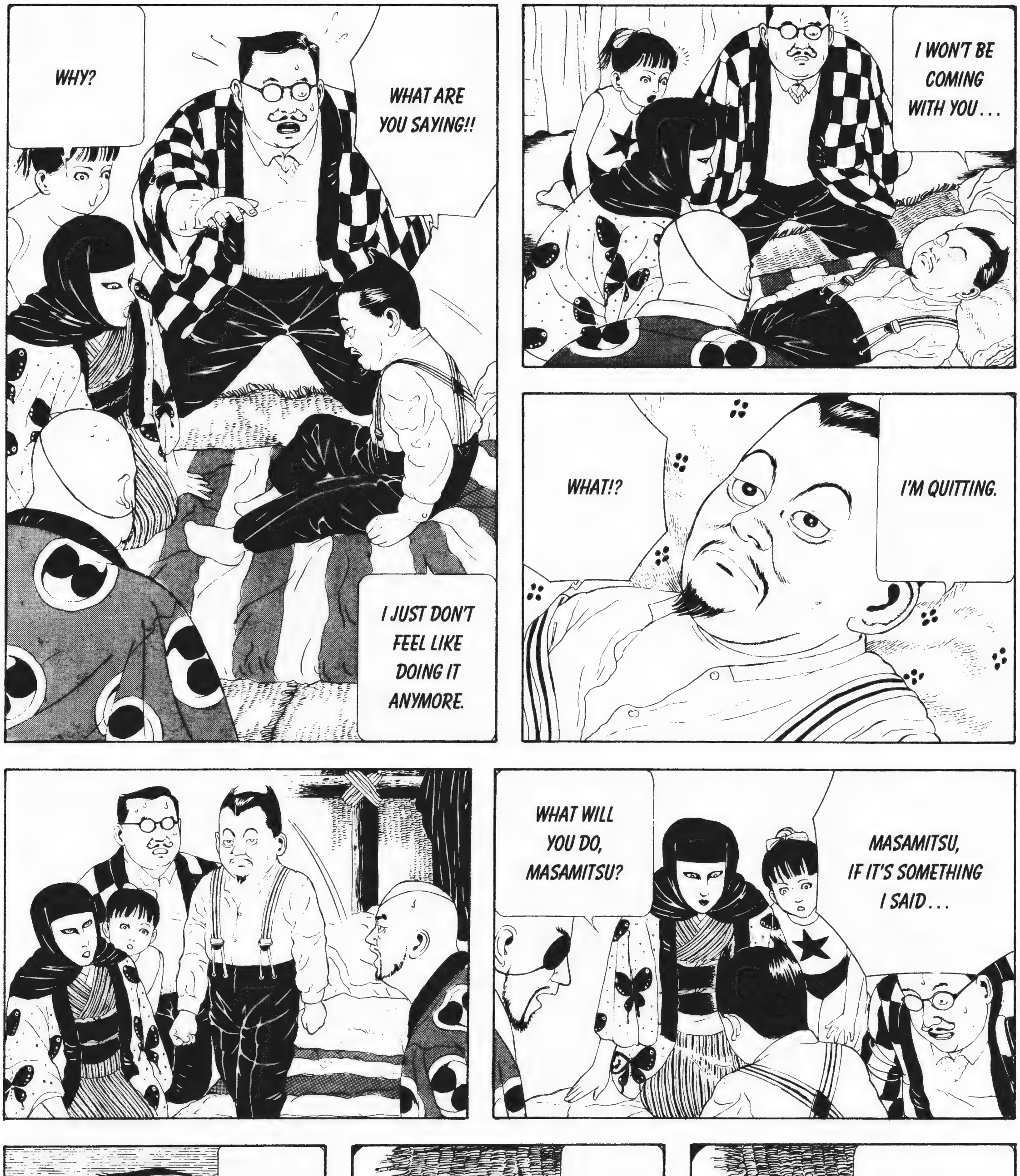

AHHH...
AHHH...
ST...
STOP IT!!
AWUHHH...
STOP IT!!
PLEASE!
PLEASE!
STOP!!
STOP!!

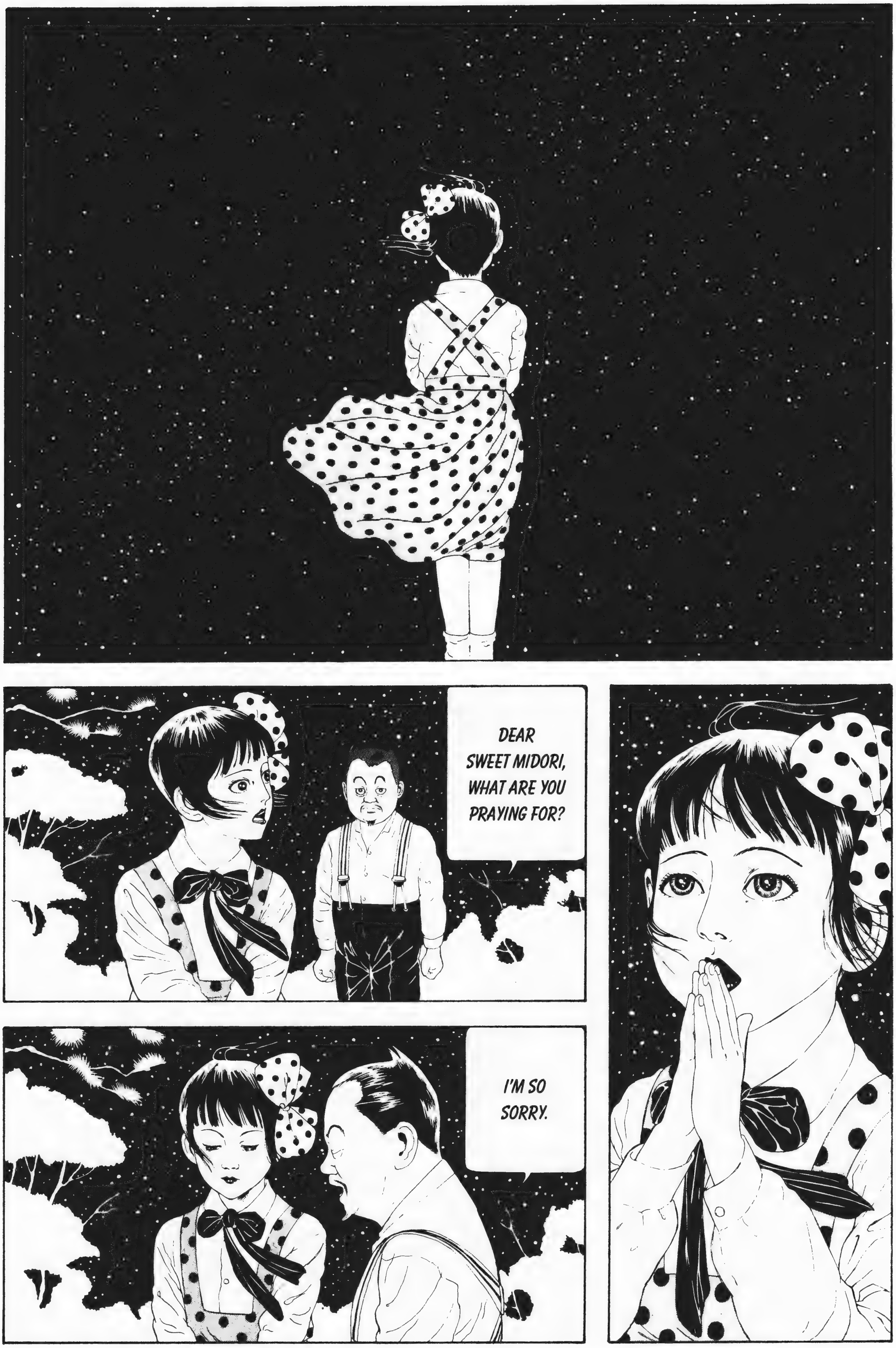

OOO-WAAAH
OOO-WAAAH
OOO-WAAAH
OOO-WAAAH
OOO-WAAAH
OOO-WAAAH
SWELL UP TILL YOU BUST!!
CONVULSE!! TWIST YOUR BONES!!

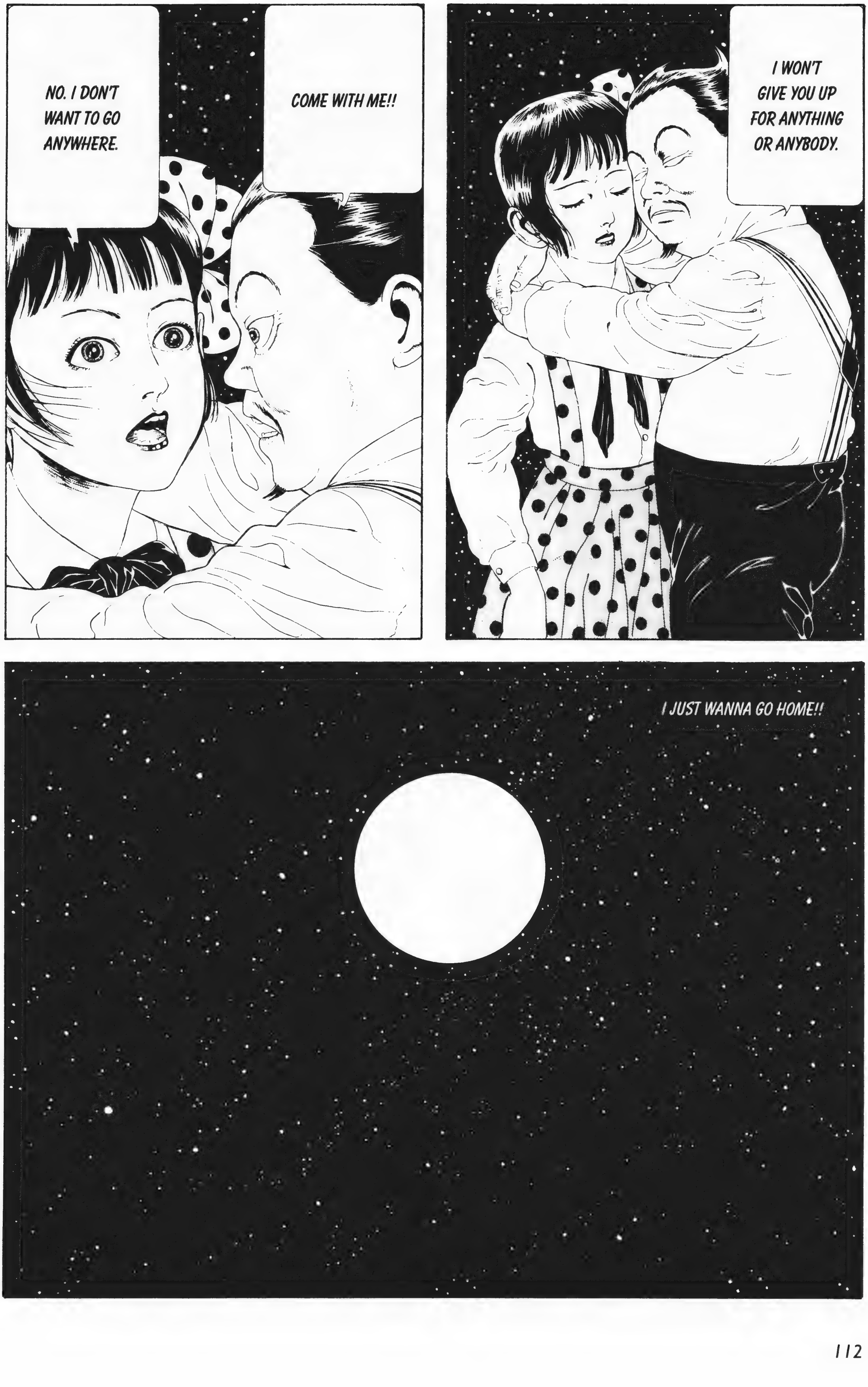



ワンダ
たこ焼き
OUT OF THE WAY!!
STEP ASIDE, STEP ASIDE!!
WHSSHT
HEY, YOU BASTARD!!


HE REALLY WIPED HIMSELF OUT. LOOK, HIS NOSE IS BLEEDING . . .
SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE, OFFICER.
ALL RIGHT, JUST DON'T LET IT HAPPEN AGAIN.
IT WAS FUCKING GREAT. JUST WATCHING IT WAS FUCKING GREAT.
I HAVEN'T SEEN ANYTHING SO EXCITING SINCE I DON'T KNOW WHEN.
OF COURSE IT WON'T. I'M TERRIBLY SORRY.
MASAMITSU,
THAT WAS DEPLORABLE!
HEY, RELAX, BOSS!!
YEAH! AFTER ALL, THEY WENT BACK TO NORMAL.
I WISH THEY'D HAVE ALL GOTTEN STUCK LIKE THAT.
IDIOTS!! WHAT IF THE CROWD HAD GONE BERSERK AFTER WHAT HE DID TO THEM, THEN WHAT!!
BUT THEY DIDN'T GO BERSERK. THEY JUST QUIETLY WENT BACK HOME.
THEY MUST HAVE FELT LIKE THEY'D DIED AND GONE TO HELL.
WE'RE FINISHED IN THIS TOWN.
WE HAVE TO MOVE.


I WON'T BE COMING WITH YOU . . .
I'M QUITTING.
WHAT!?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!!
WHY?
I JUST DON'T FEEL LIKE DOING IT ANYMORE.
MASAMITSU, IF IT'S SOMETHING I SAID . . .
WHAT WILL YOU DO, MASAMITSU?
SIR— IF YOU LEAVE US NOW, WE—
SIR!!
GEE, HE'S GONE. NOW WHAT'LL WE DO?

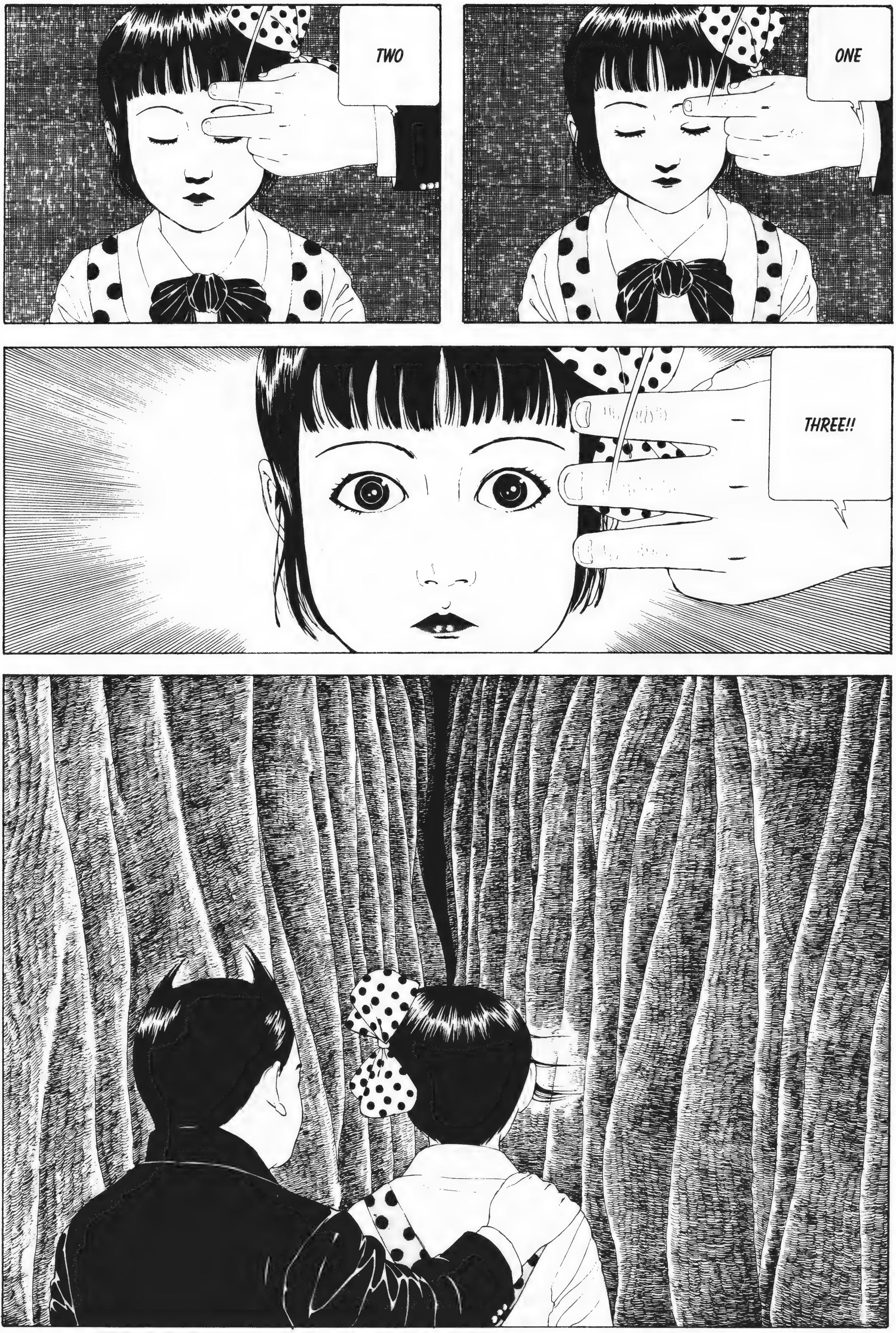

DEAR SWEET MIDORI, WHAT ARE YOU PRAYING FOR?
I'M SO SORRY.

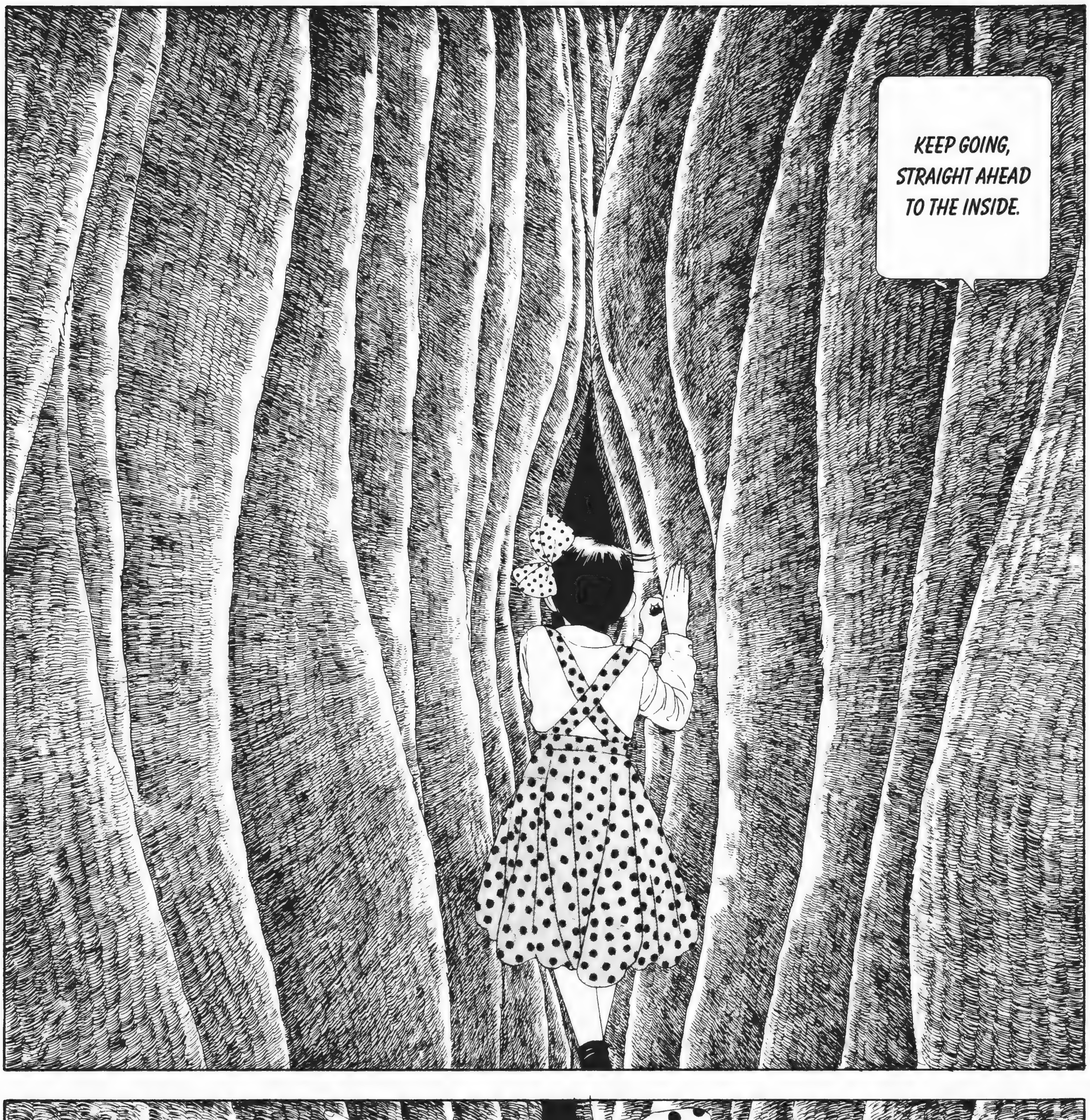

I WON'T GIVE YOU UP FOR ANYTHING OR ANYBODY.
COME WITH ME!!
NO. I DON'T WANT TO GO ANYWHERE.
I JUST WANNA GO HOME!!

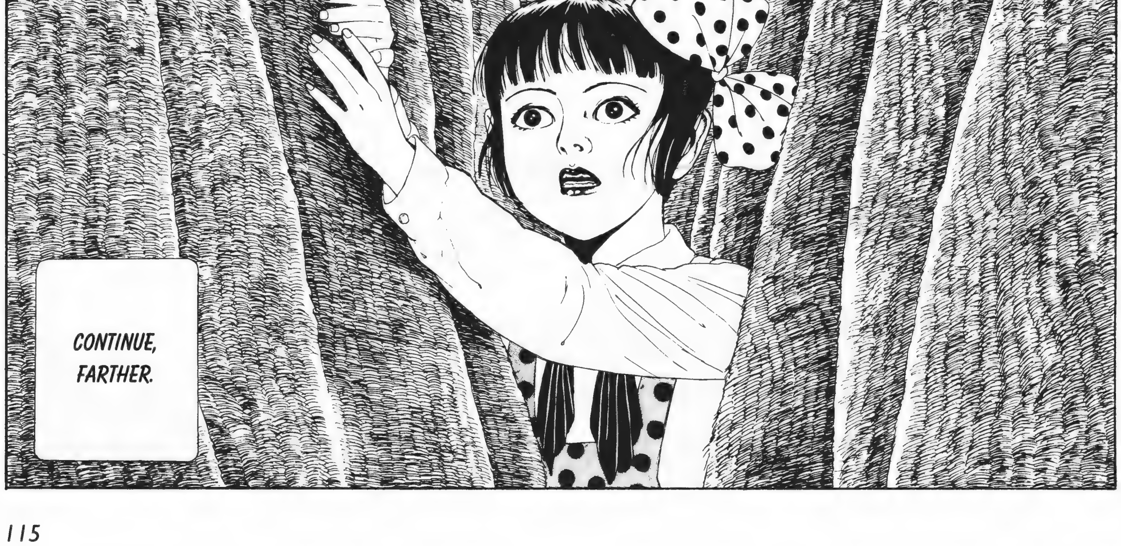
CHAPTER SEVEN

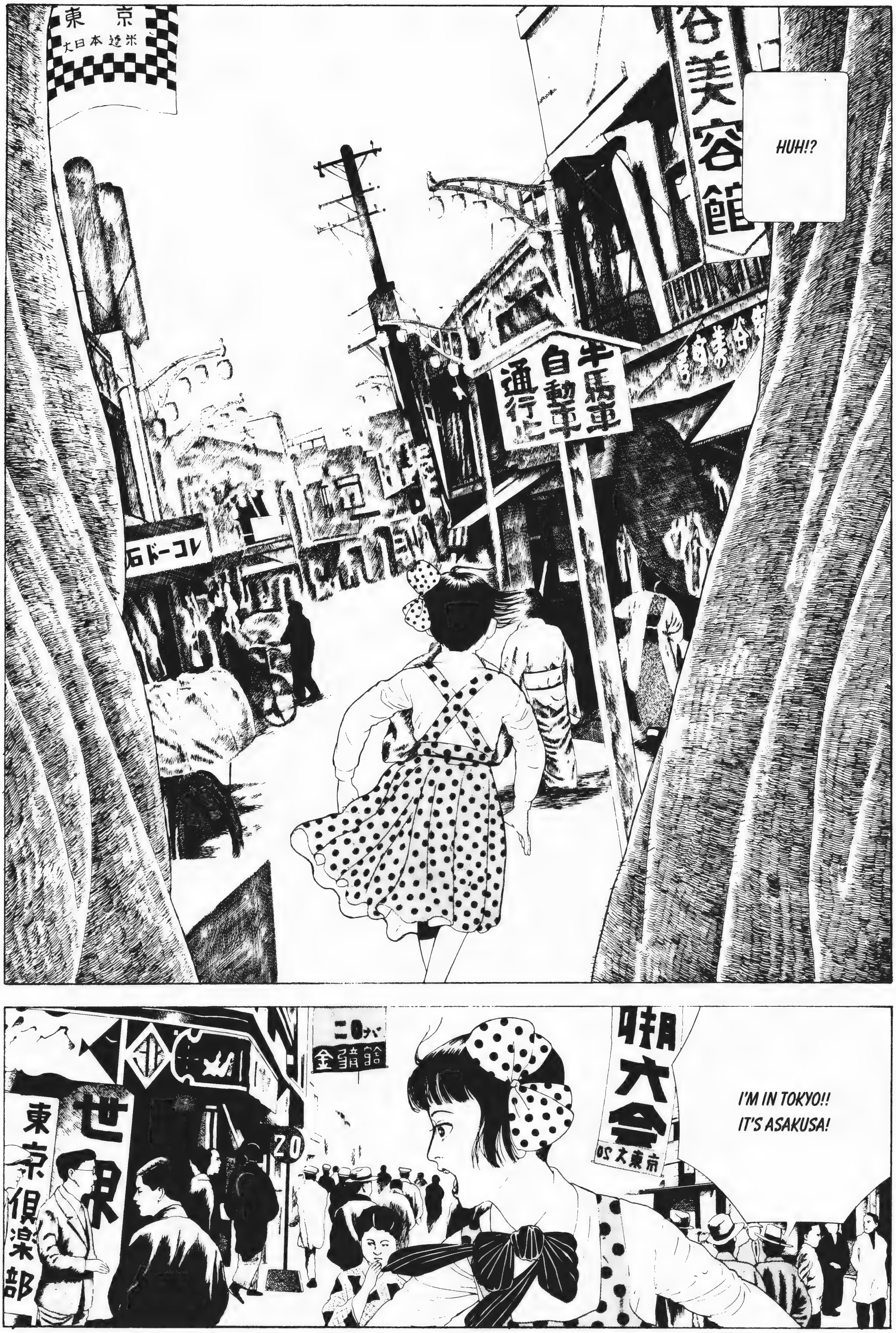
'TIL DEATH DO US PART

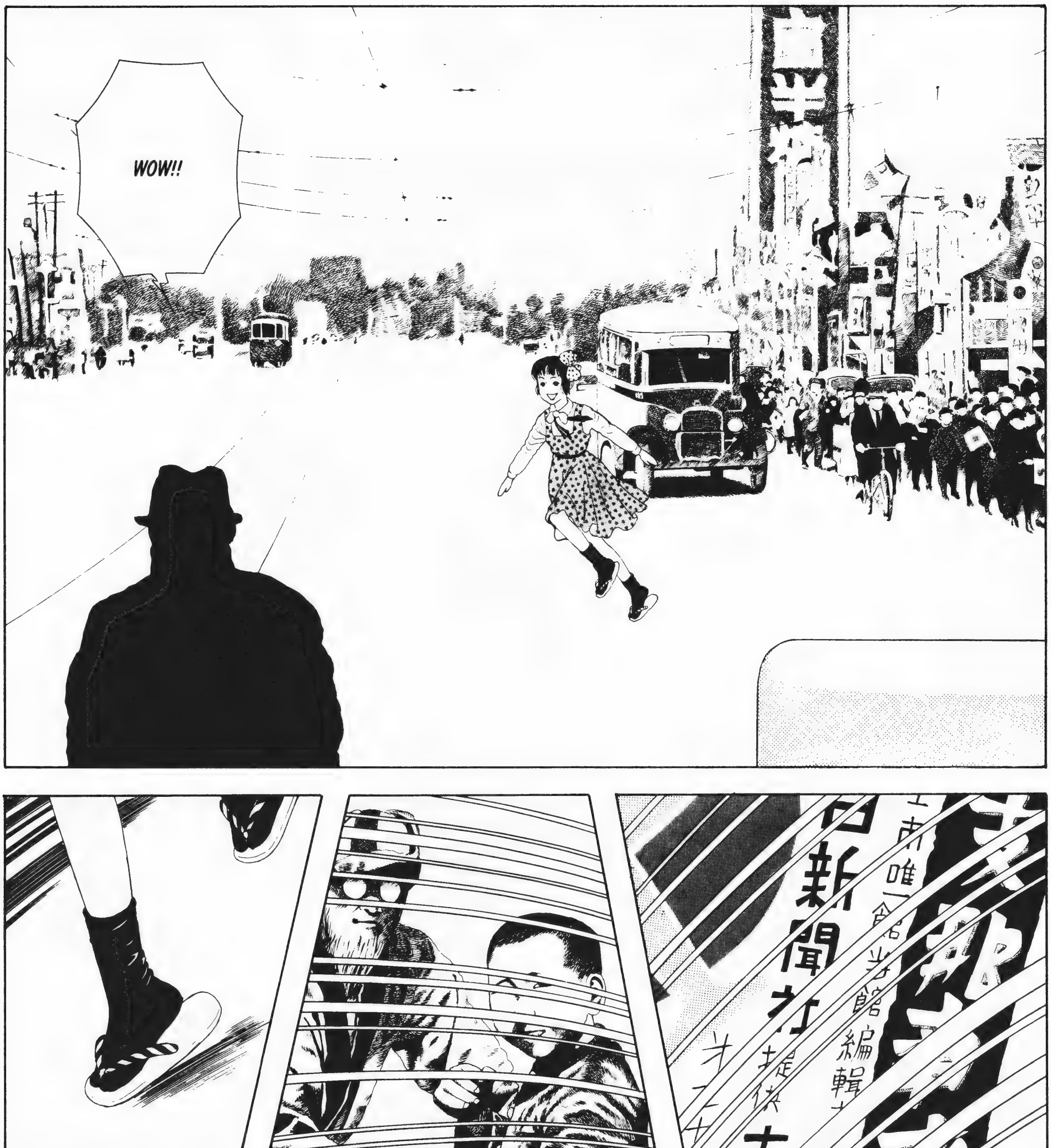
ヴキシロン
ホリダミン

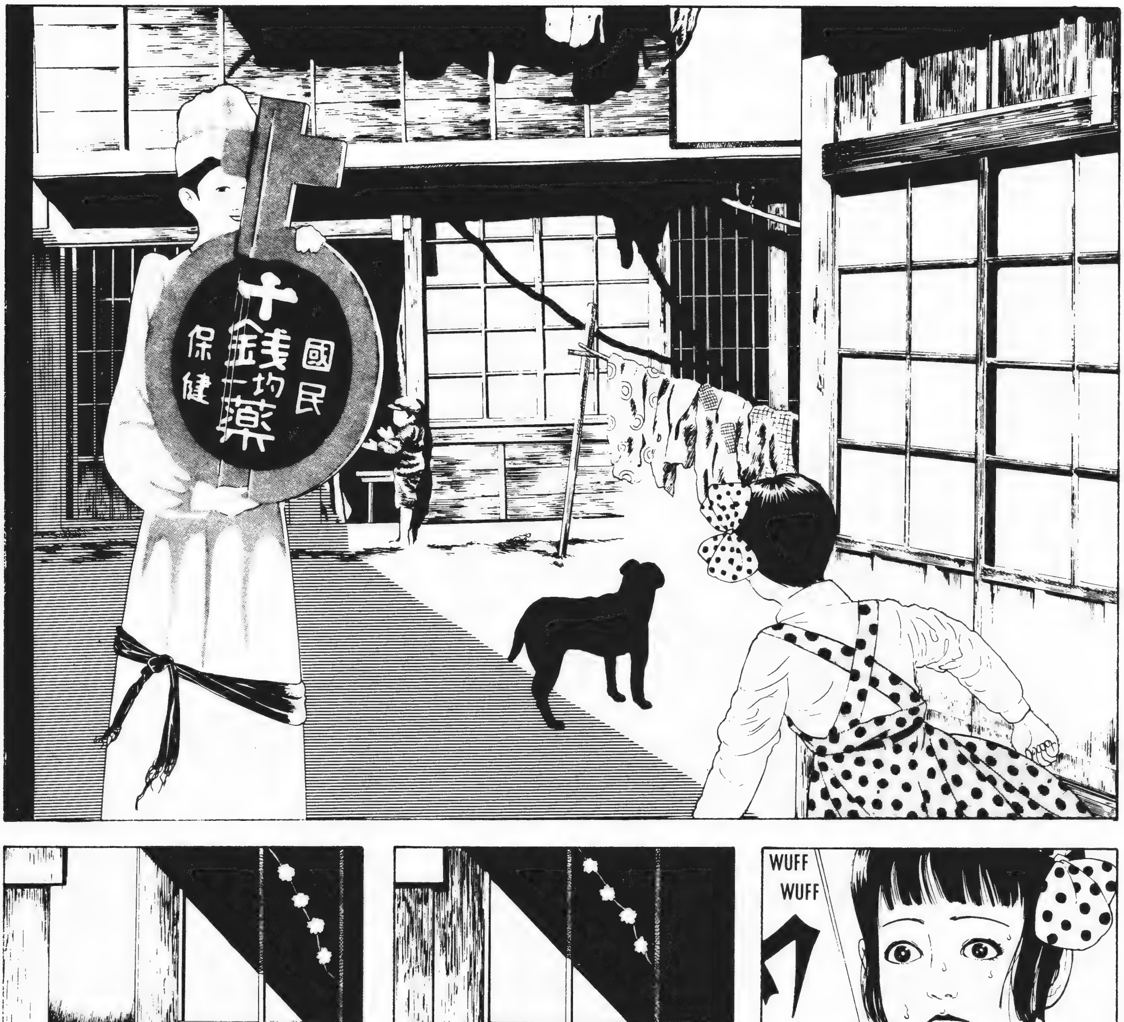

ONE
TWO
THREE!!

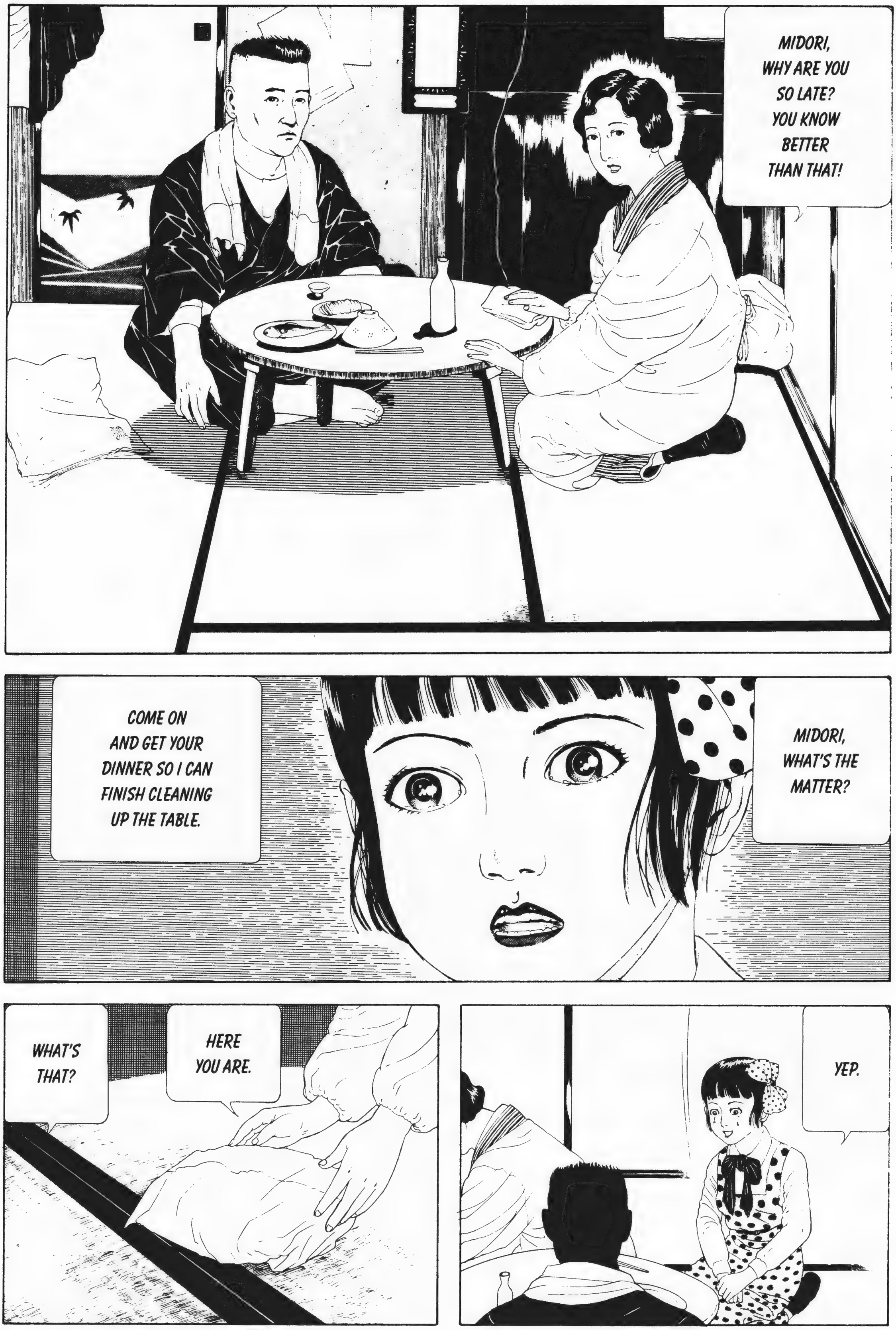

KEEP GOING, STRAIGHT AHEAD TO THE INSIDE.

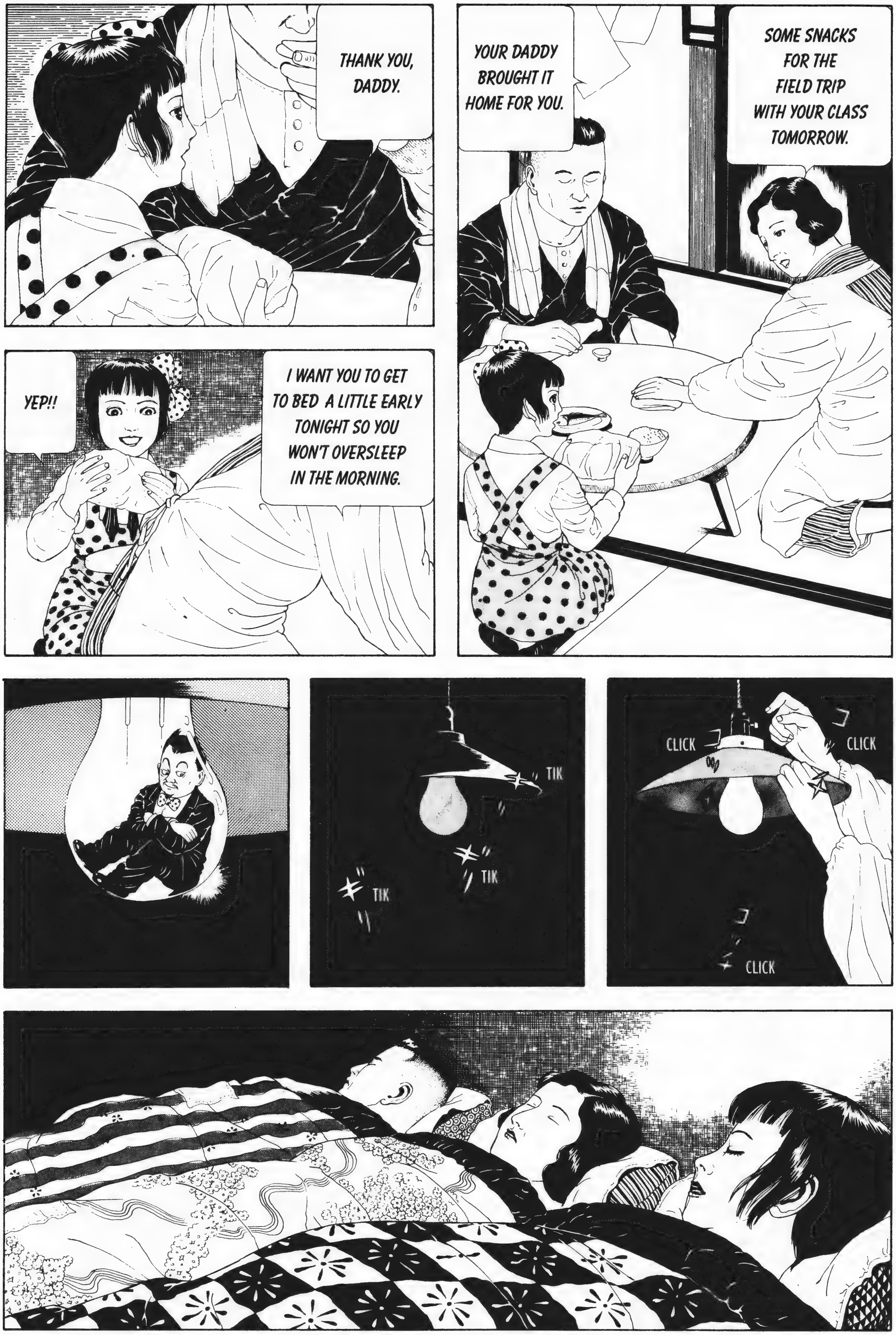

CONTINUE, FARTHER.

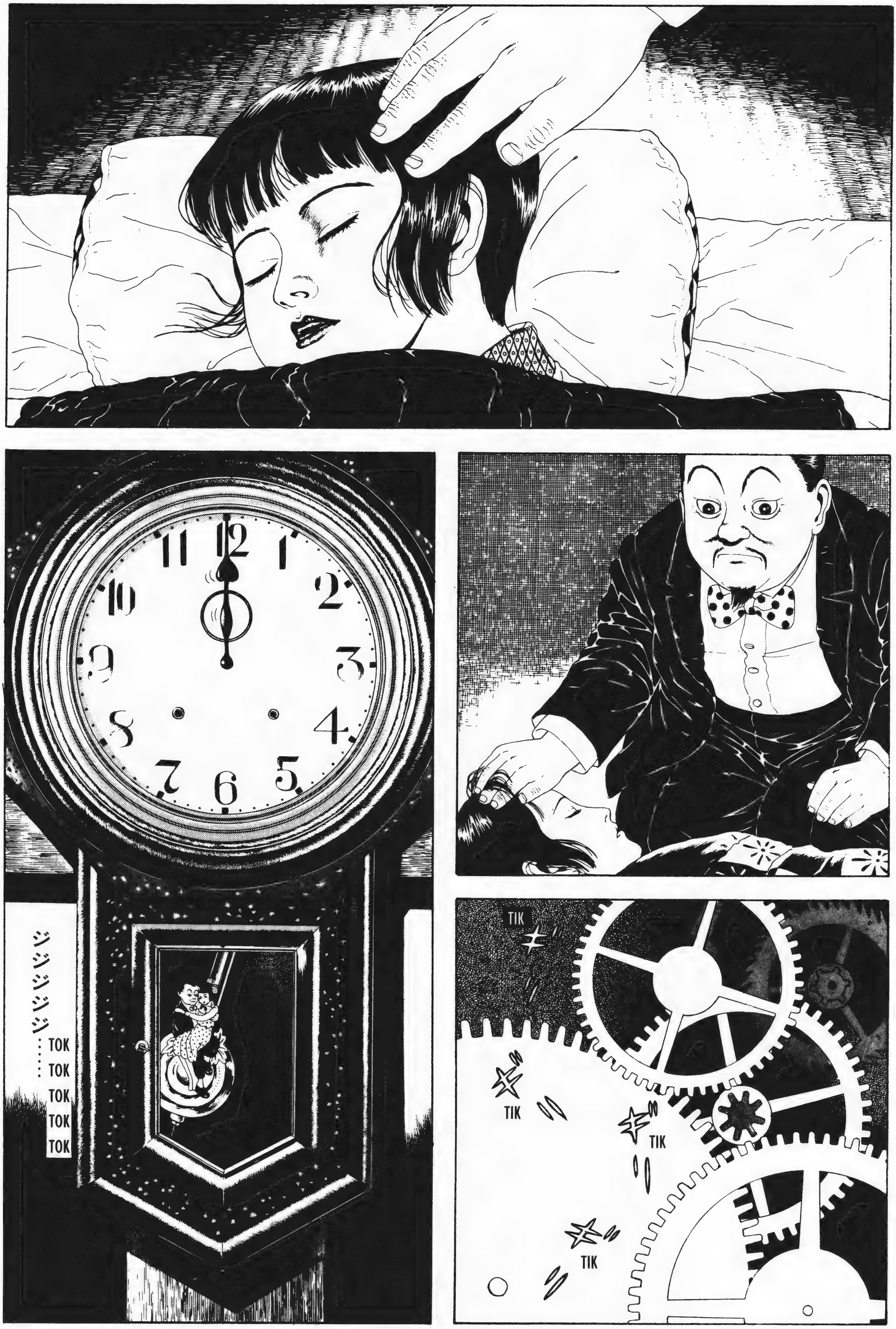

東京
谷美容館
牛馬車自動車通行止
HUH!?
I'M IN TOKYO!! IT'S ASAKUSA!
東京倶楽部
世界

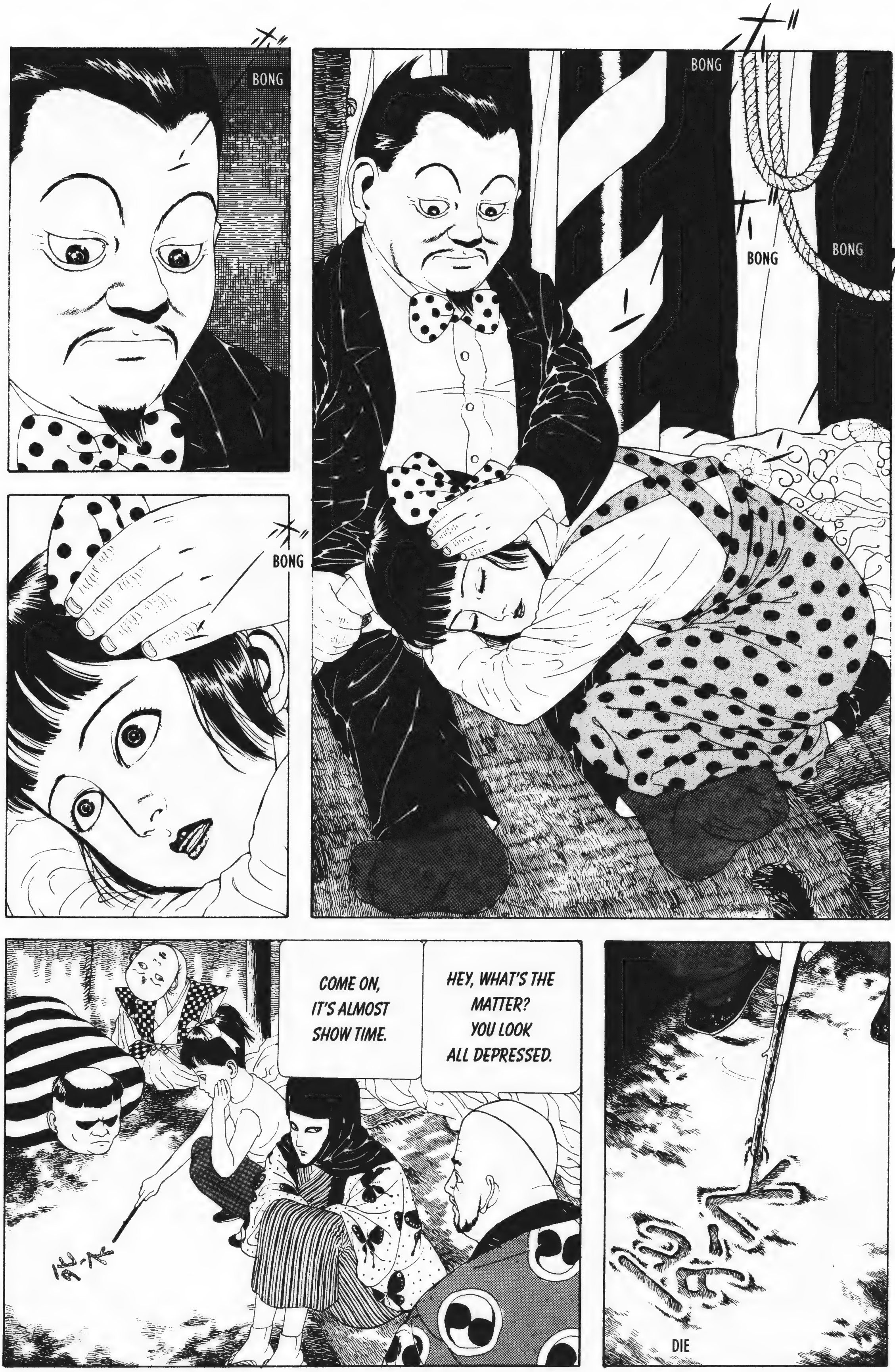

WOW!!
日新聞社
唯一
館編輯
提供
事や早わかり!!

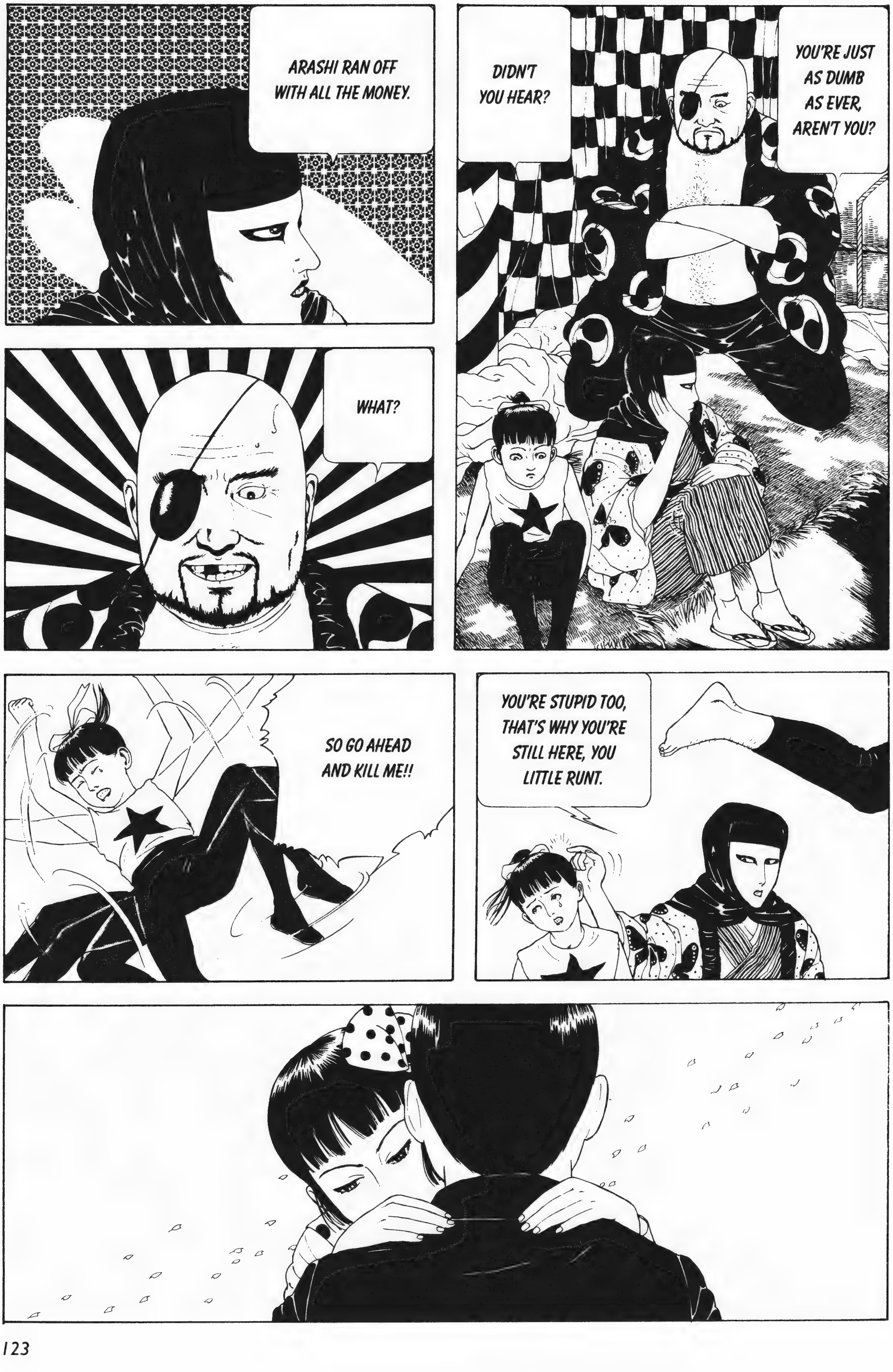

國民
十銭均一薬
保健
WUFF WUFF

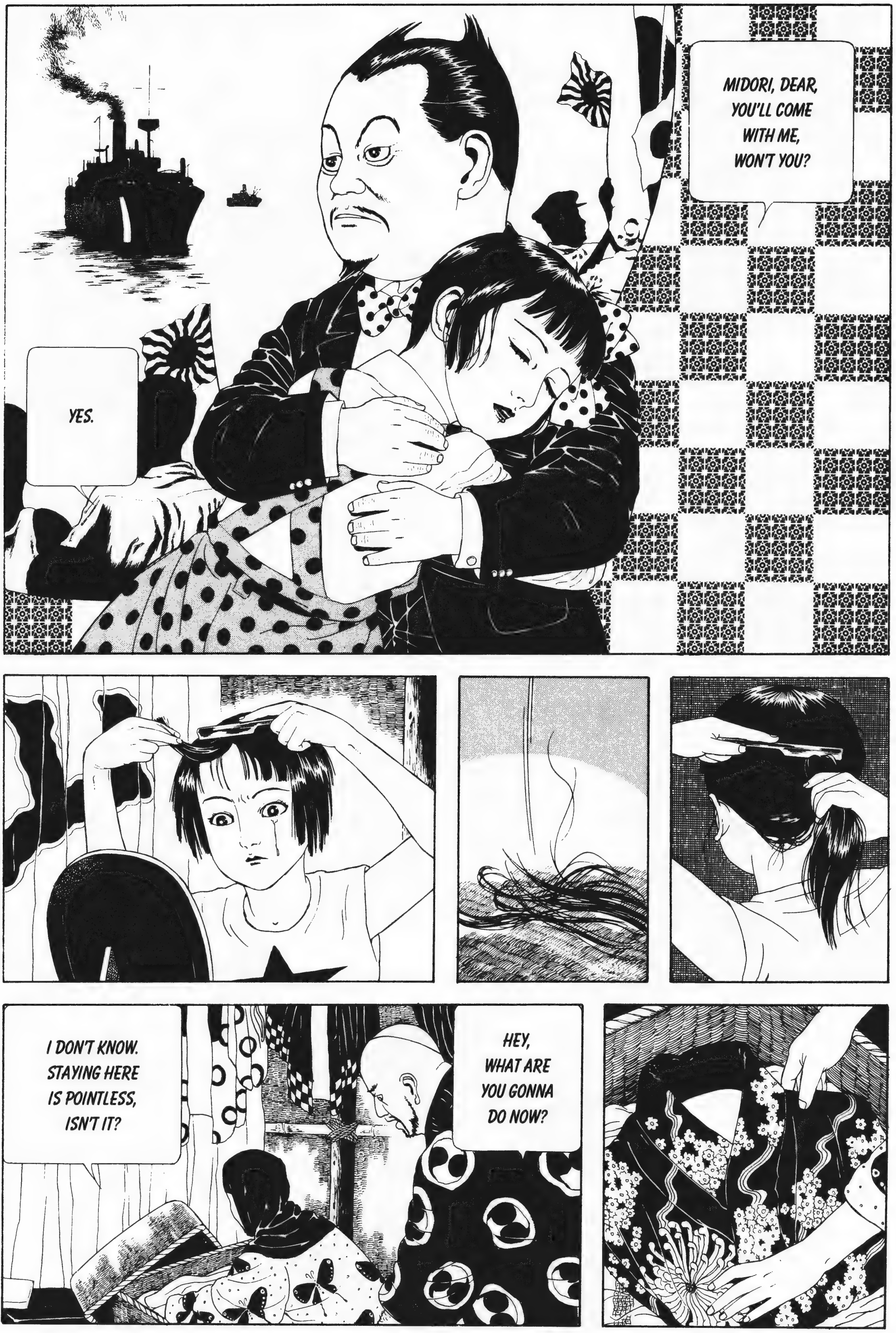

MIDORI, WHY ARE YOU SO LATE? YOU KNOW BETTER THAN THAT!
MIDORI, WHAT'S THE MATTER?
COME ON AND GET YOUR DINNER SO I CAN FINISH CLEANING UP THE TABLE.
YEP.
HERE YOU ARE.
WHAT'S THAT?

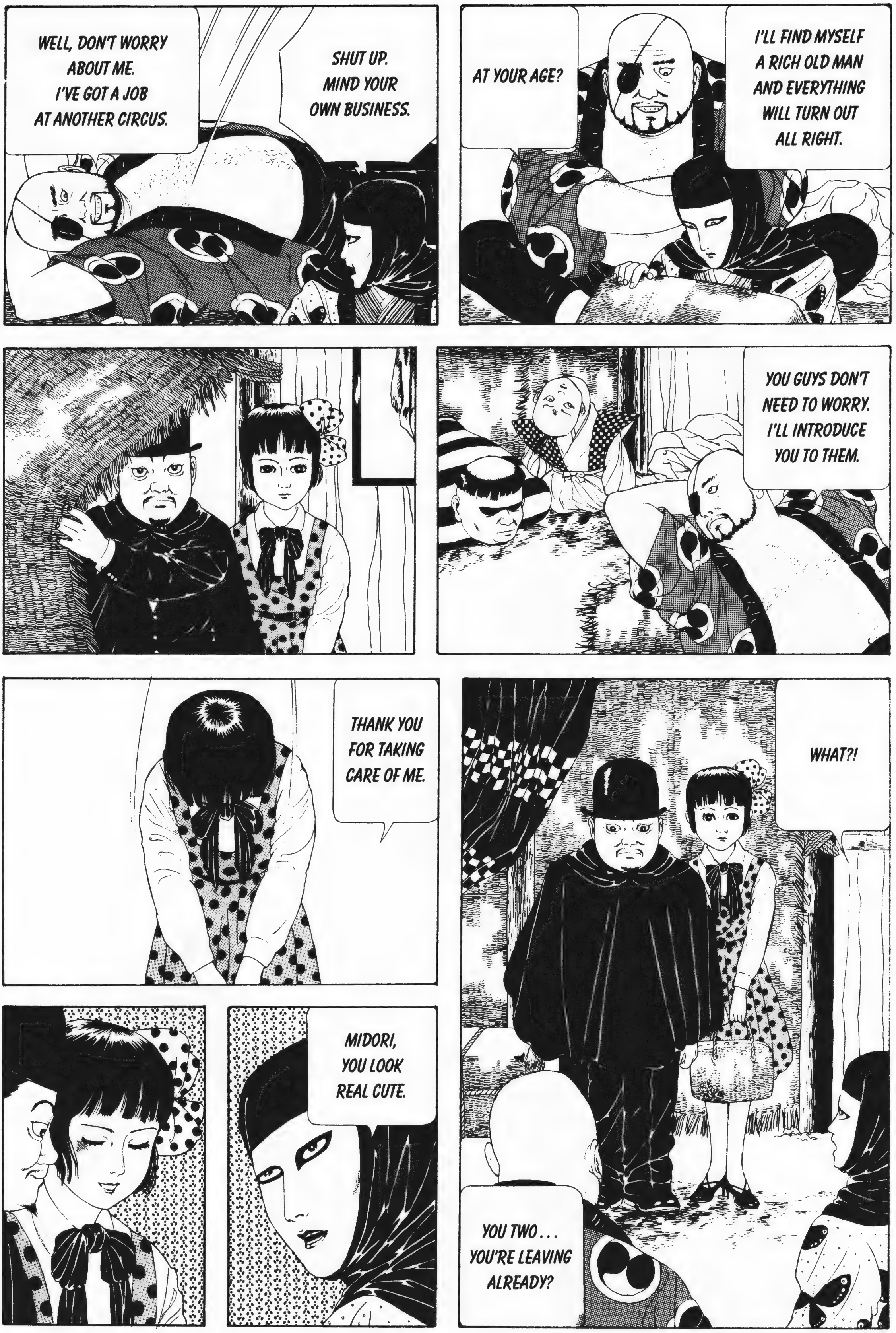

SOME SNACKS FOR THE FIELD TRIP WITH YOUR CLASS TOMORROW.
YOUR DADDY BROUGHT IT HOME FOR YOU.
THANK YOU, DADDY.
I WANT YOU TO GET TO BED A LITTLE EARLY TONIGHT SO YOU WON'T OVERSLEEP IN THE MORNING.
YEP!!
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
TIK
TIK
TIK

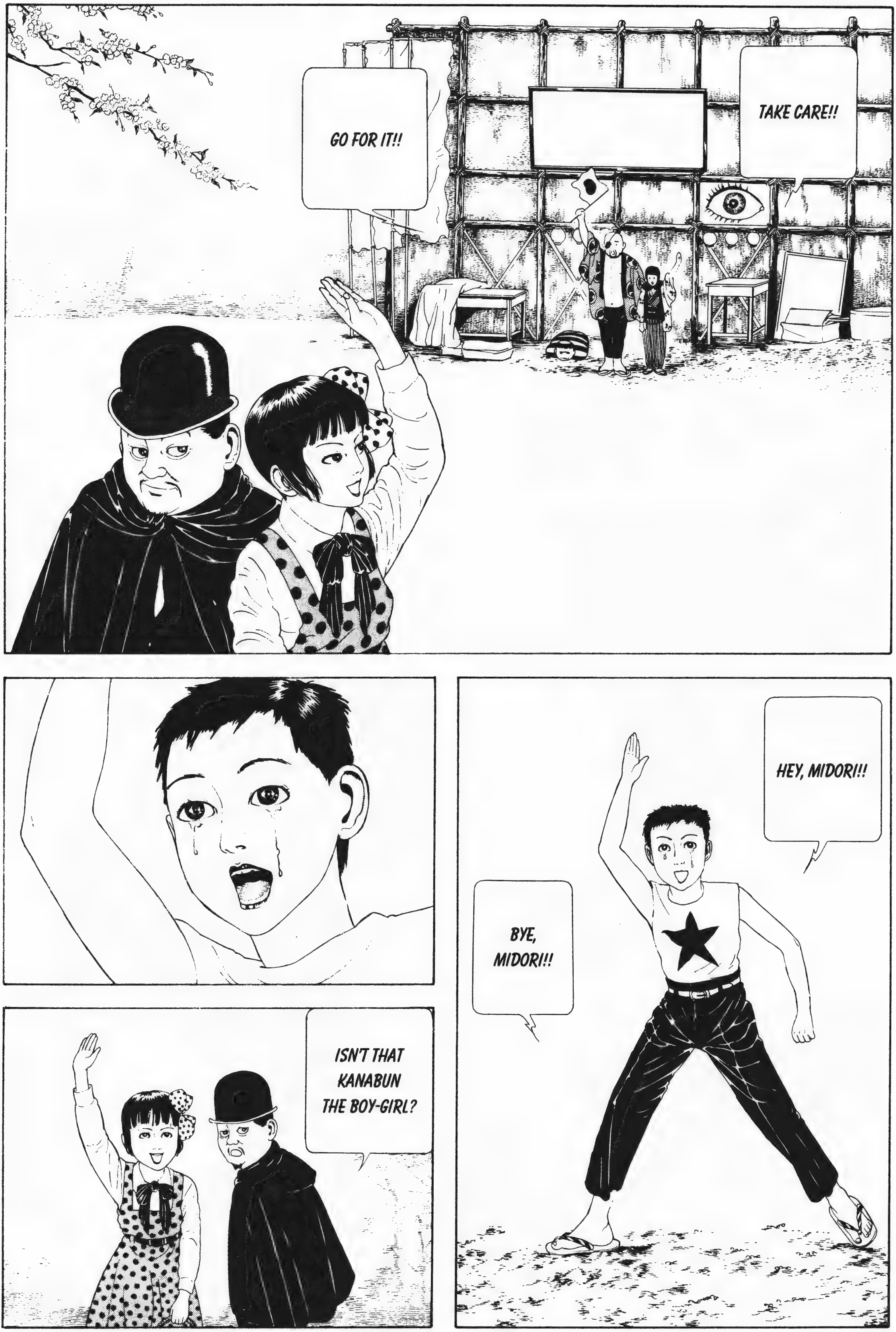

ジジジジジ……TOK
TOK
TOK
TOK
TOK
TIK
TIK
TIK
TIK

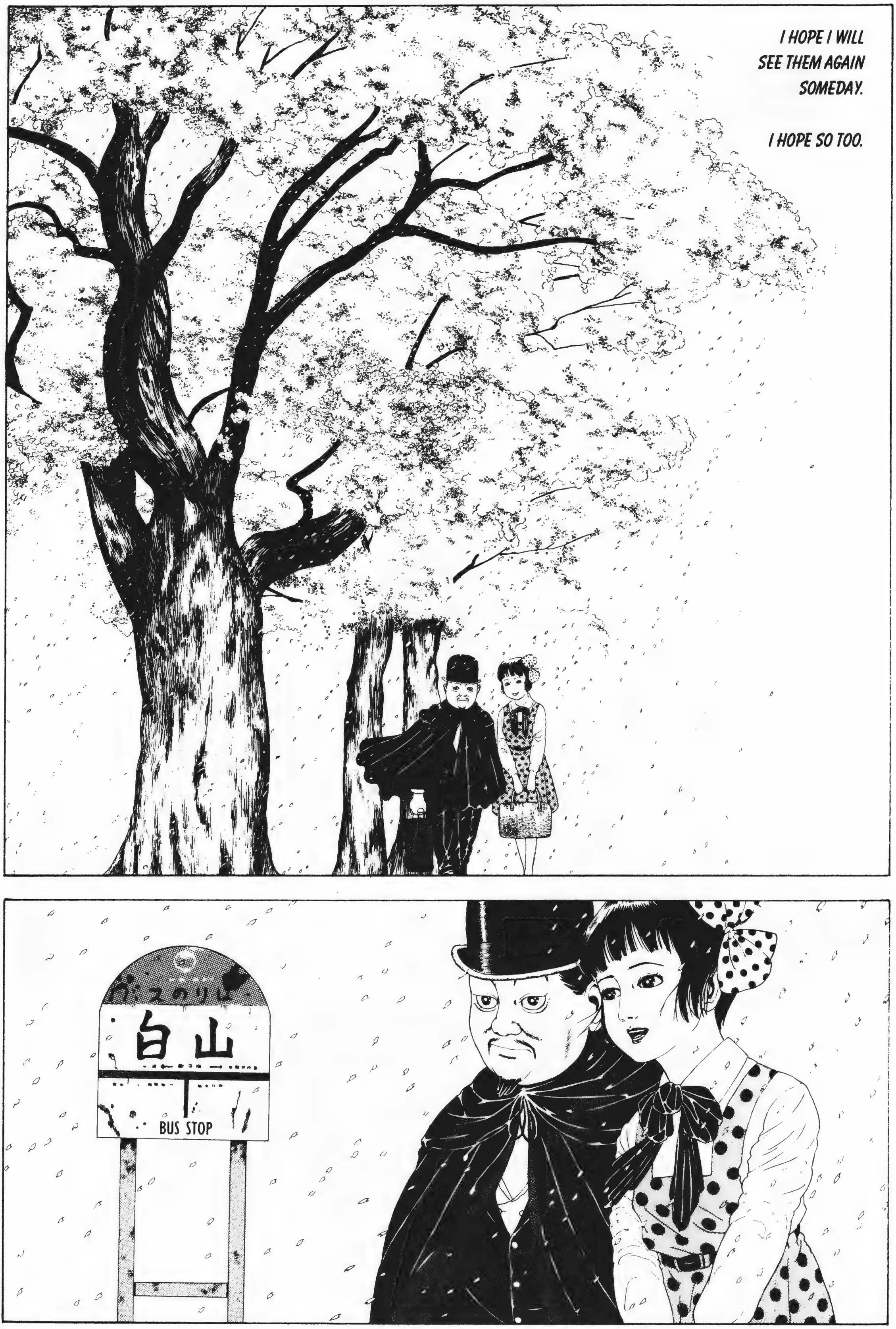

BONG
BONG
BONG
BONG
BONG
DIE
HEY, WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU LOOK ALL DEPRESSED.
COME ON, IT'S ALMOST SHOW TIME.

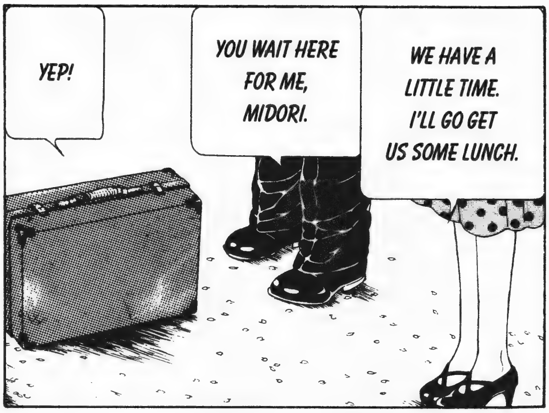

YOU'RE JUST AS DUMB AS EVER, AREN'T YOU?
DIDN'T YOU HEAR?
ARASHI RAN OFF WITH ALL THE MONEY.
WHAT?
YOU'RE STUPID TOO, THAT'S WHY YOU'RE STILL HERE, YOU LITTLE RUNT.
SO GO AHEAD AND KILL ME!!

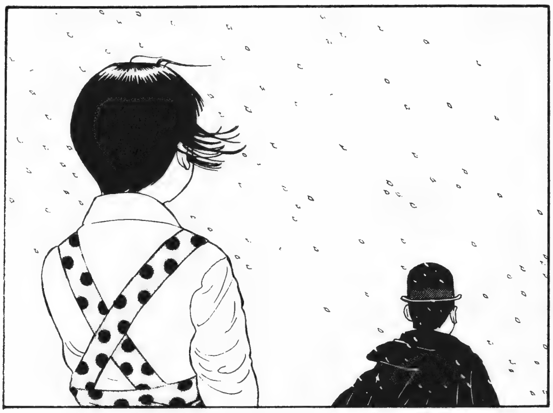

MIDORI, DEAR, YOU'LL COME WITH ME, WON'T YOU?
YES.
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO NOW?
I DON'T KNOW. STAYING HERE IS POINTLESS, ISN'T IT?

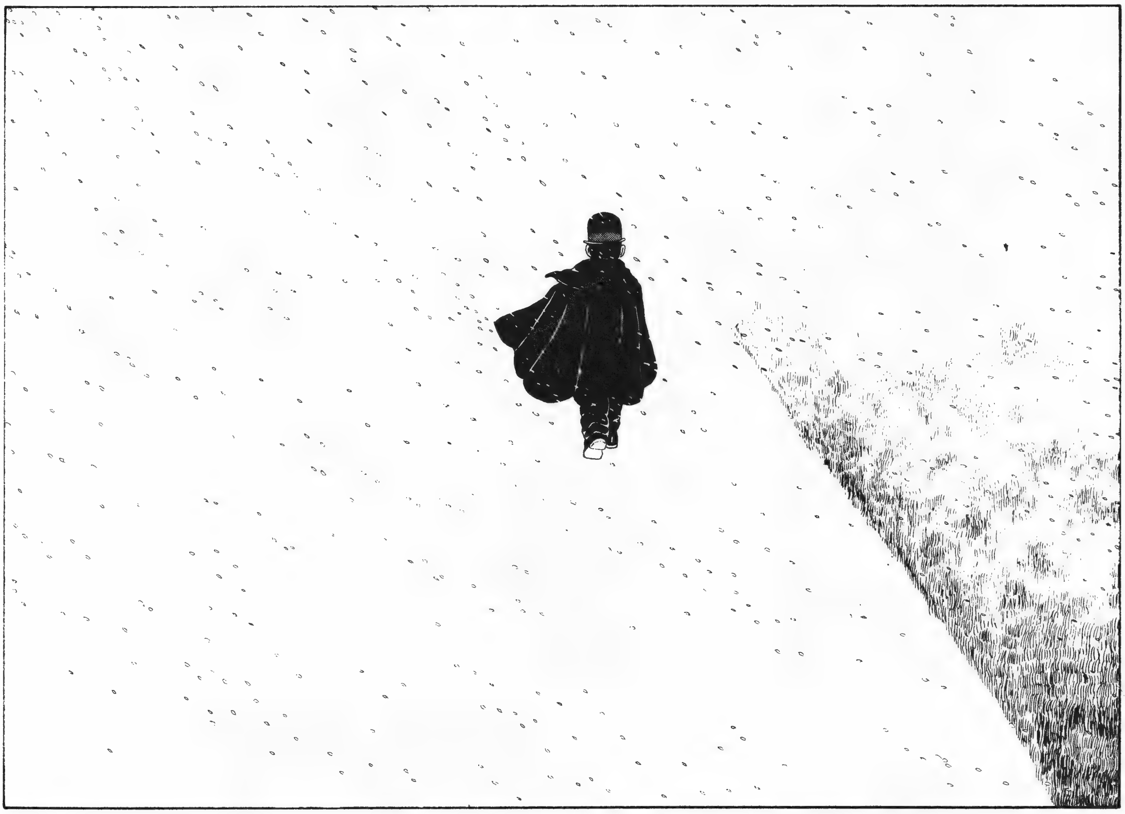

WELL, DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME. I'VE GOT A JOB AT ANOTHER CIRCUS.
SHUT UP. MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS.
AT YOUR AGE?
I'LL FIND MYSELF A RICH OLD MAN AND EVERYTHING WILL TURN OUT ALL RIGHT.
YOU GUYS DON'T NEED TO WORRY. I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO THEM.
THANK YOU FOR TAKING CARE OF ME.
MIDORI, YOU LOOK REAL CUTE.
WHAT?!
YOU TWO . . . YOU'RE LEAVING ALREADY?

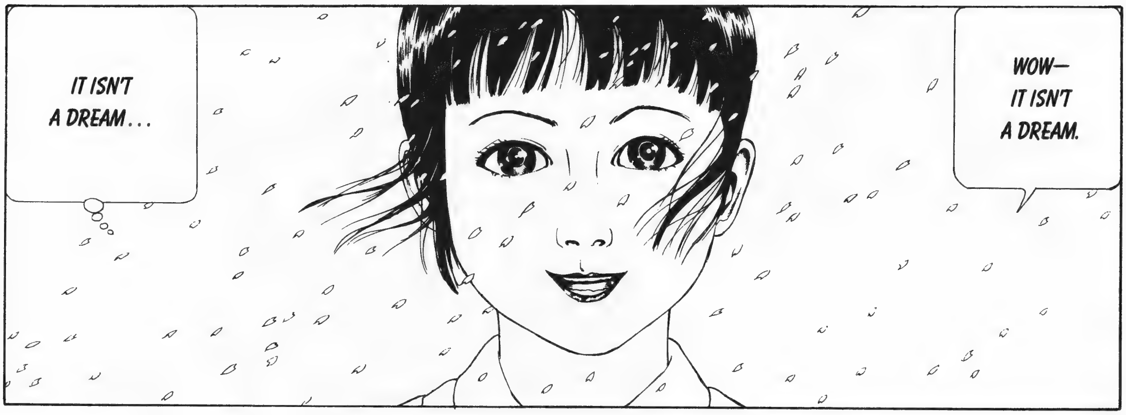

TAKE CARE!!
GO FOR IT!!
HEY, MIDORI!!
BYE, MIDORI!!
ISN'T THAT KANABUN THE BOY-GIRL?


I HOPE I WILL SEE THEM AGAIN SOMEDAY.
I HOPE SO TOO.
バスのりば
白山
BUS STOP

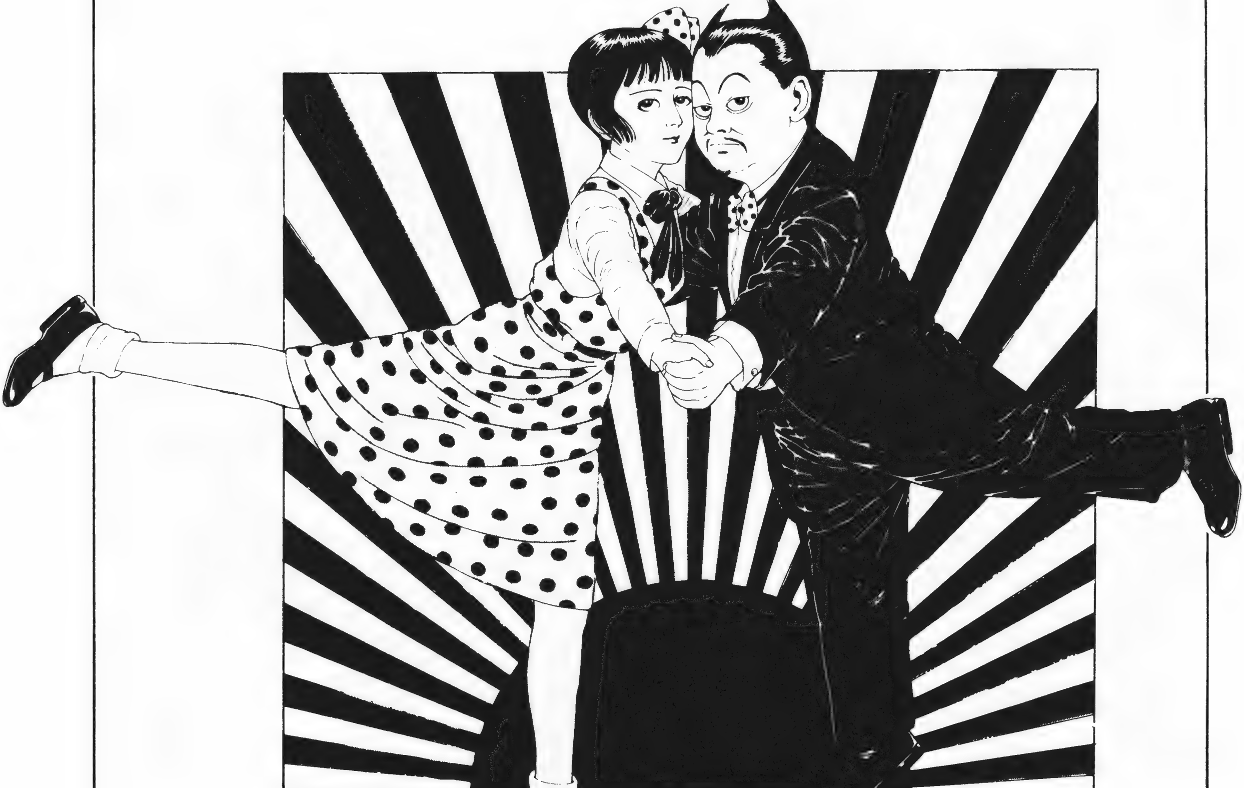

WE HAVE A LITTLE TIME. I'LL GO GET US SOME LUNCH.
YOU WAIT HERE FOR ME, MIDORI.
YEP!

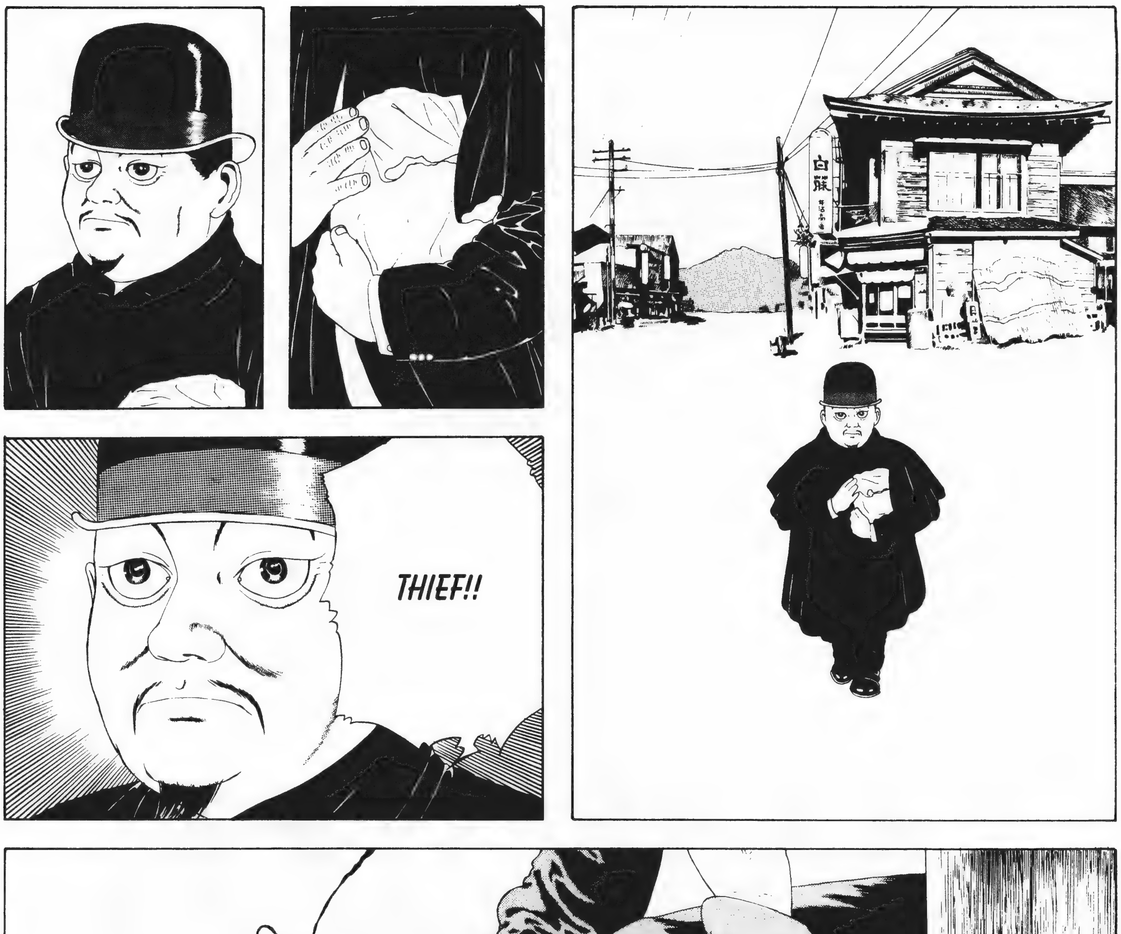


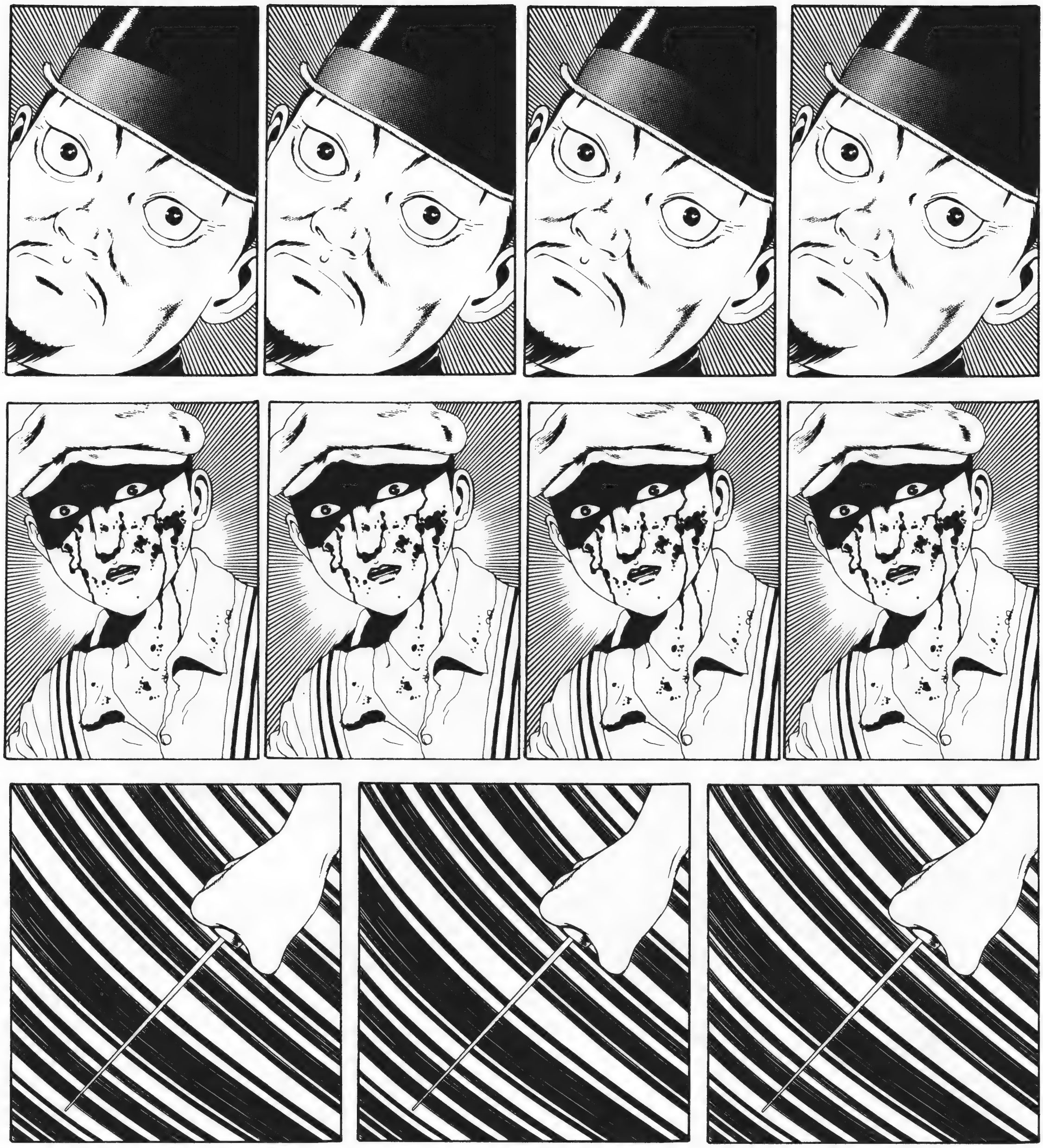


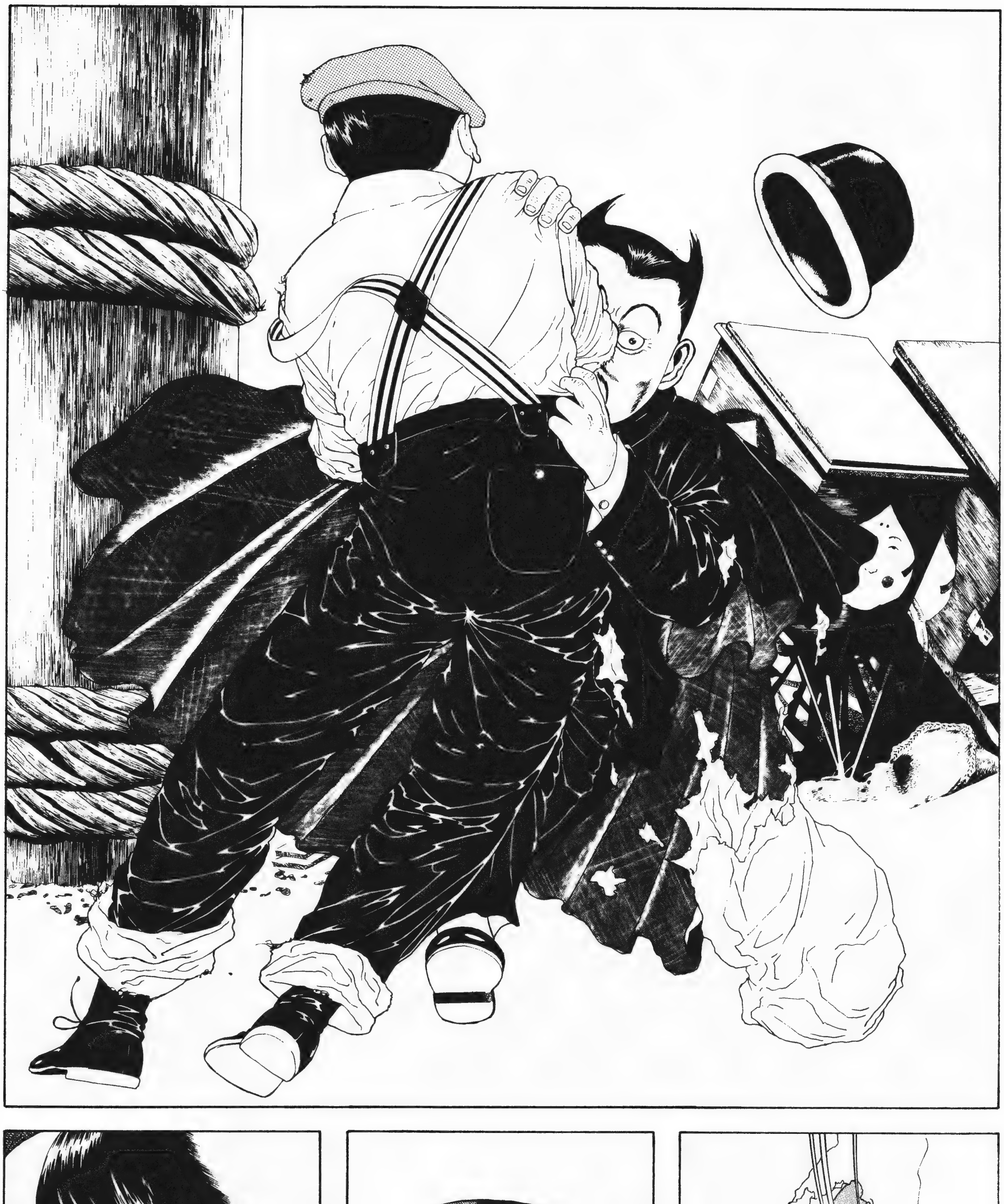

WOW— IT ISN'T A DREAM.
IT ISN'T A DREAM...

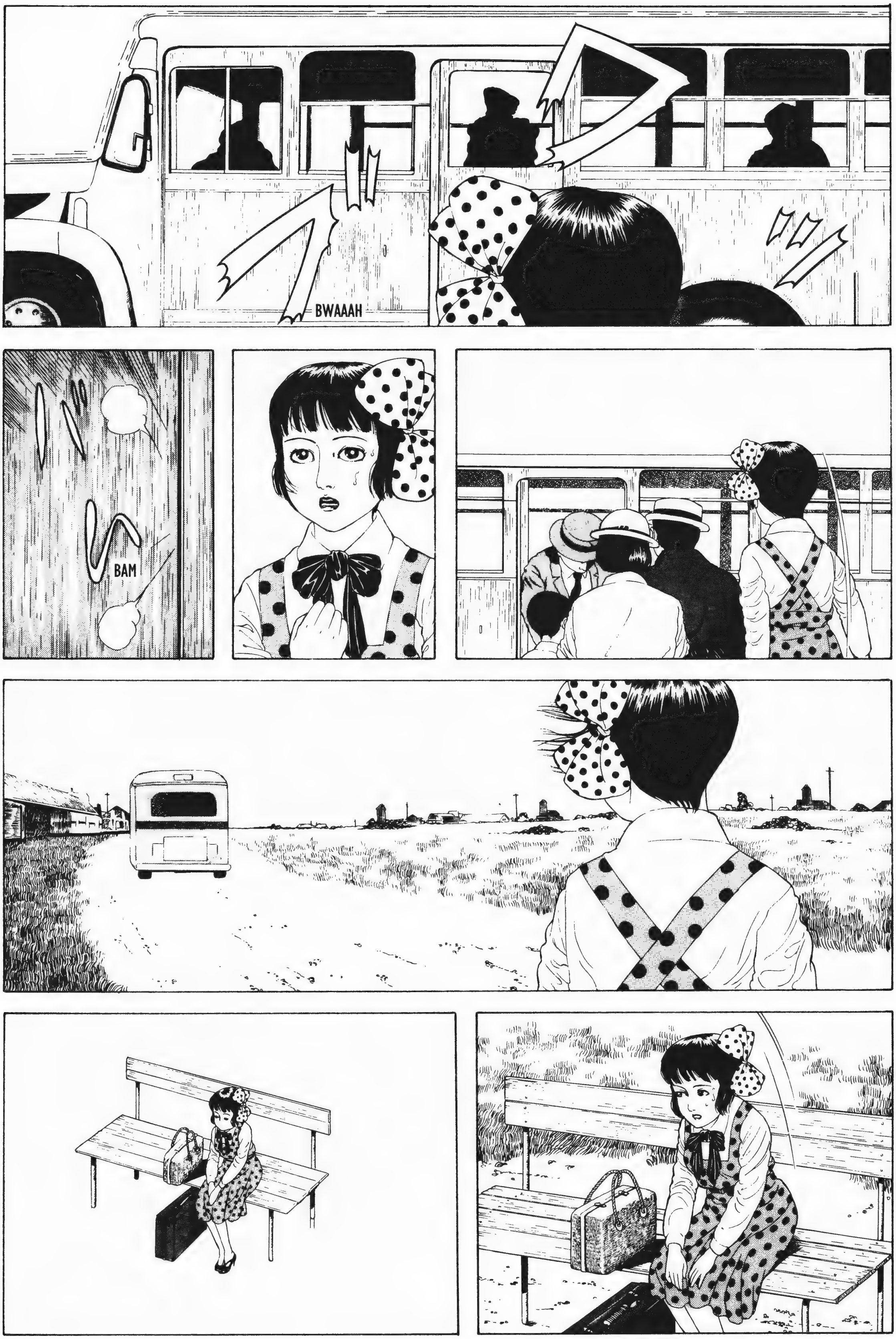
FAREWELL, SWEET CHERRY BLOSSOMS

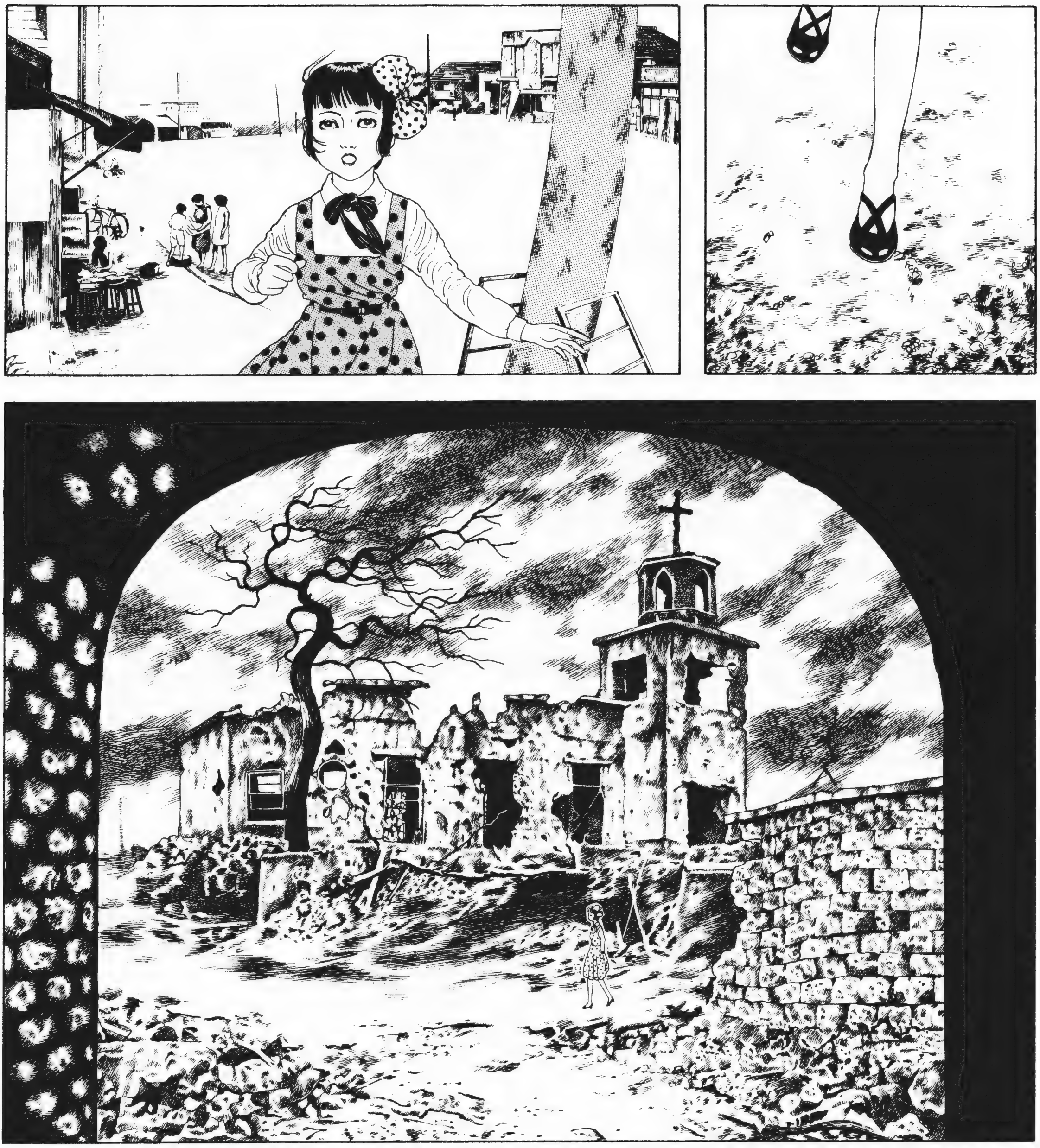


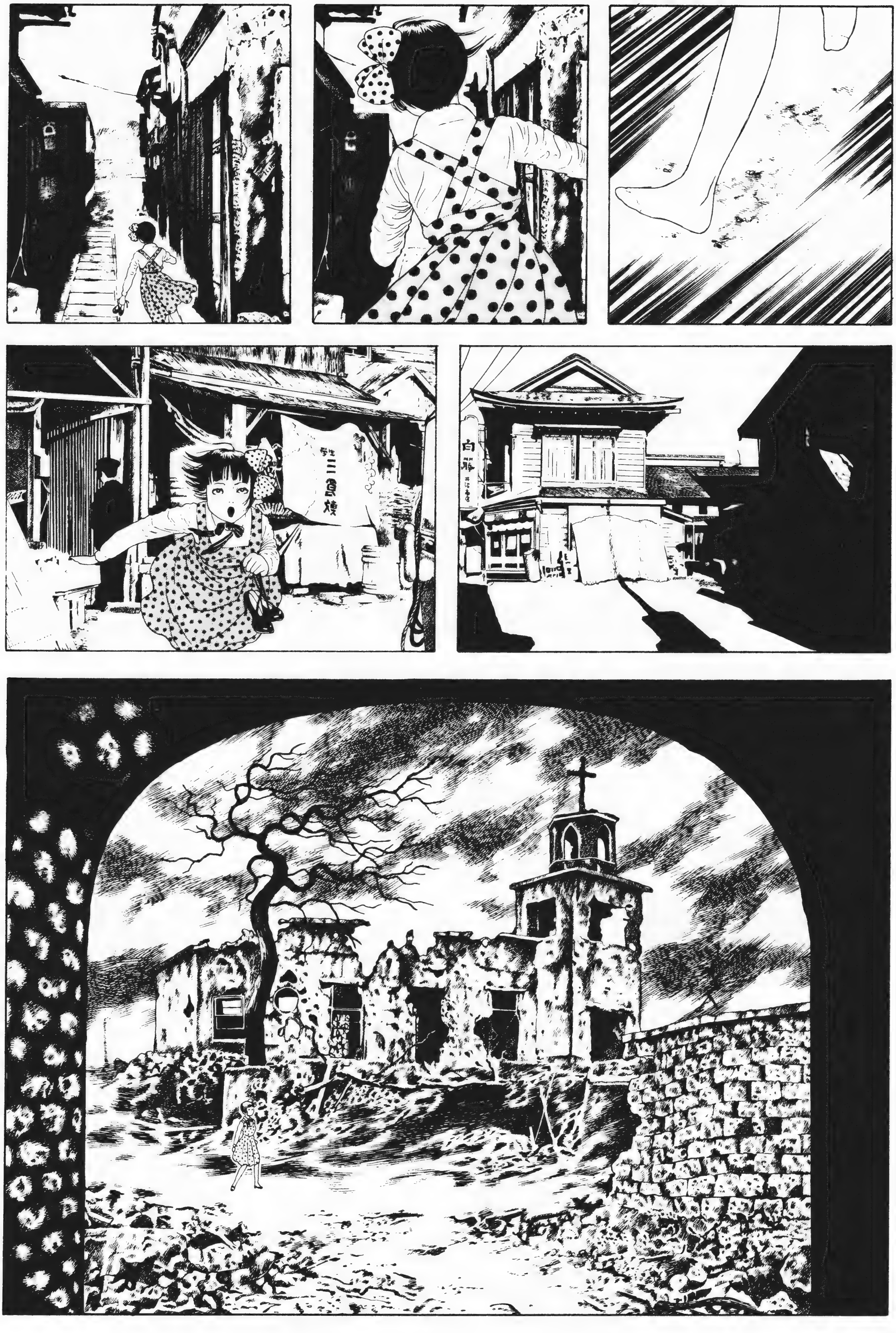

THIEF!!

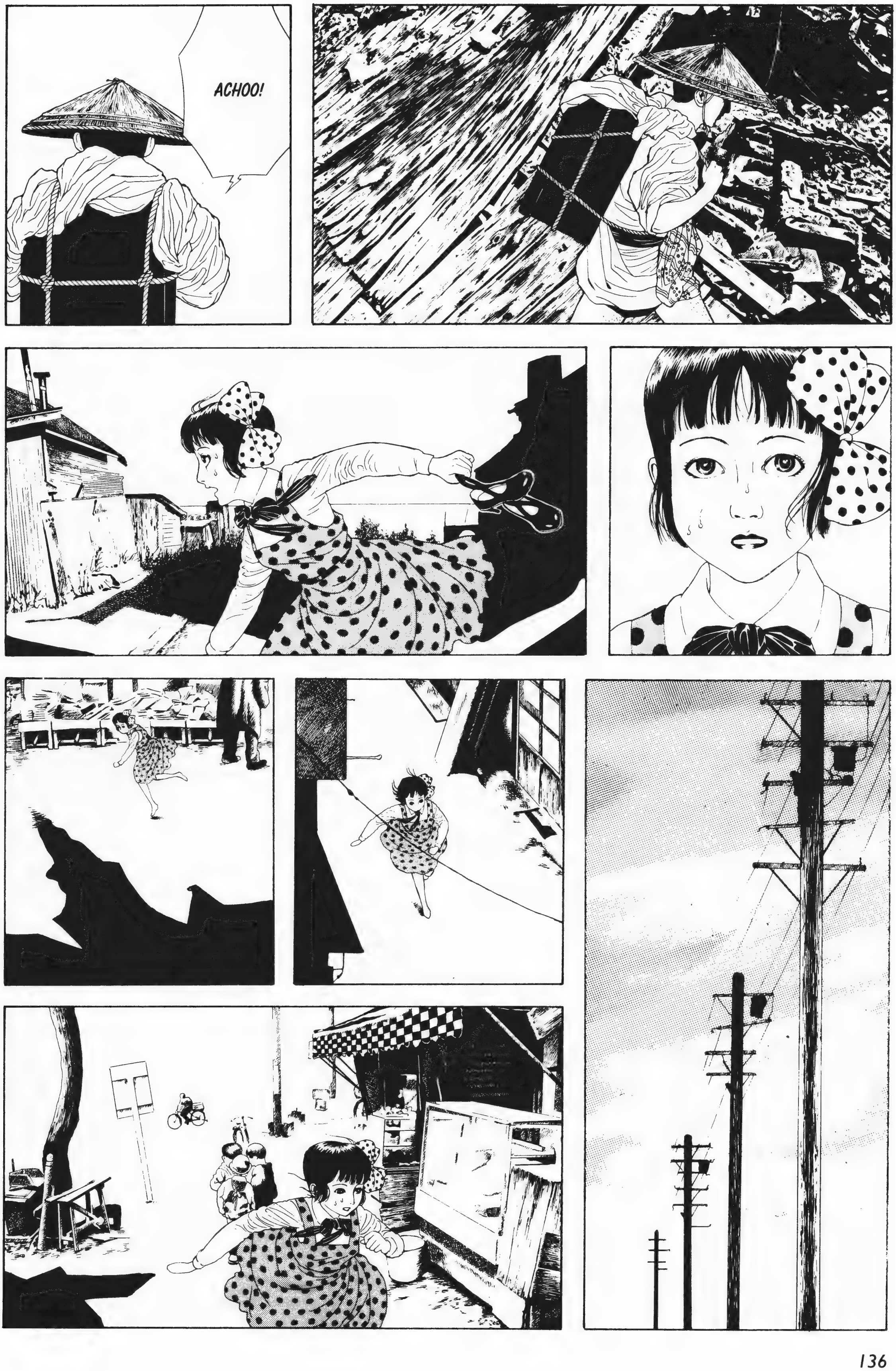


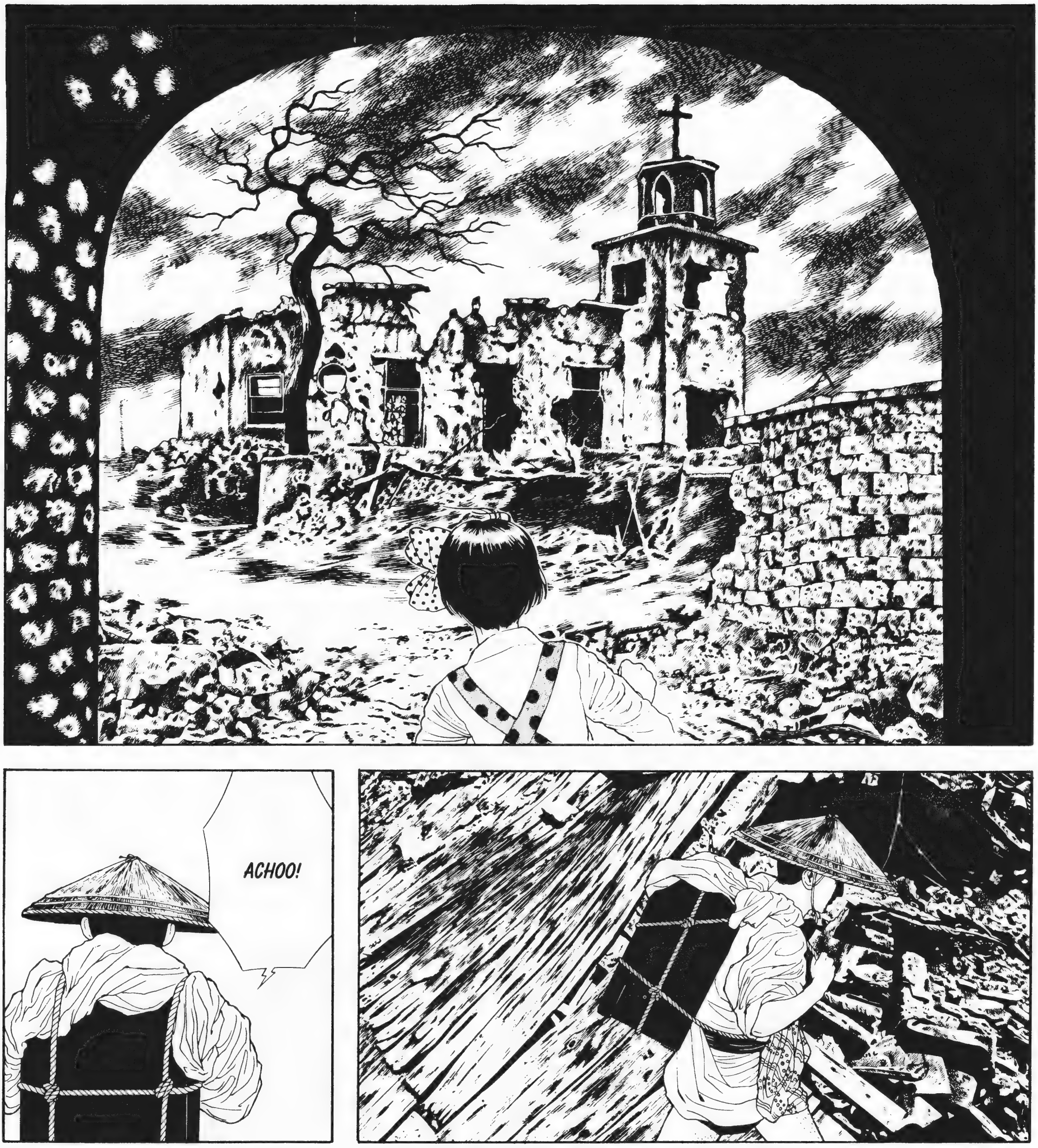


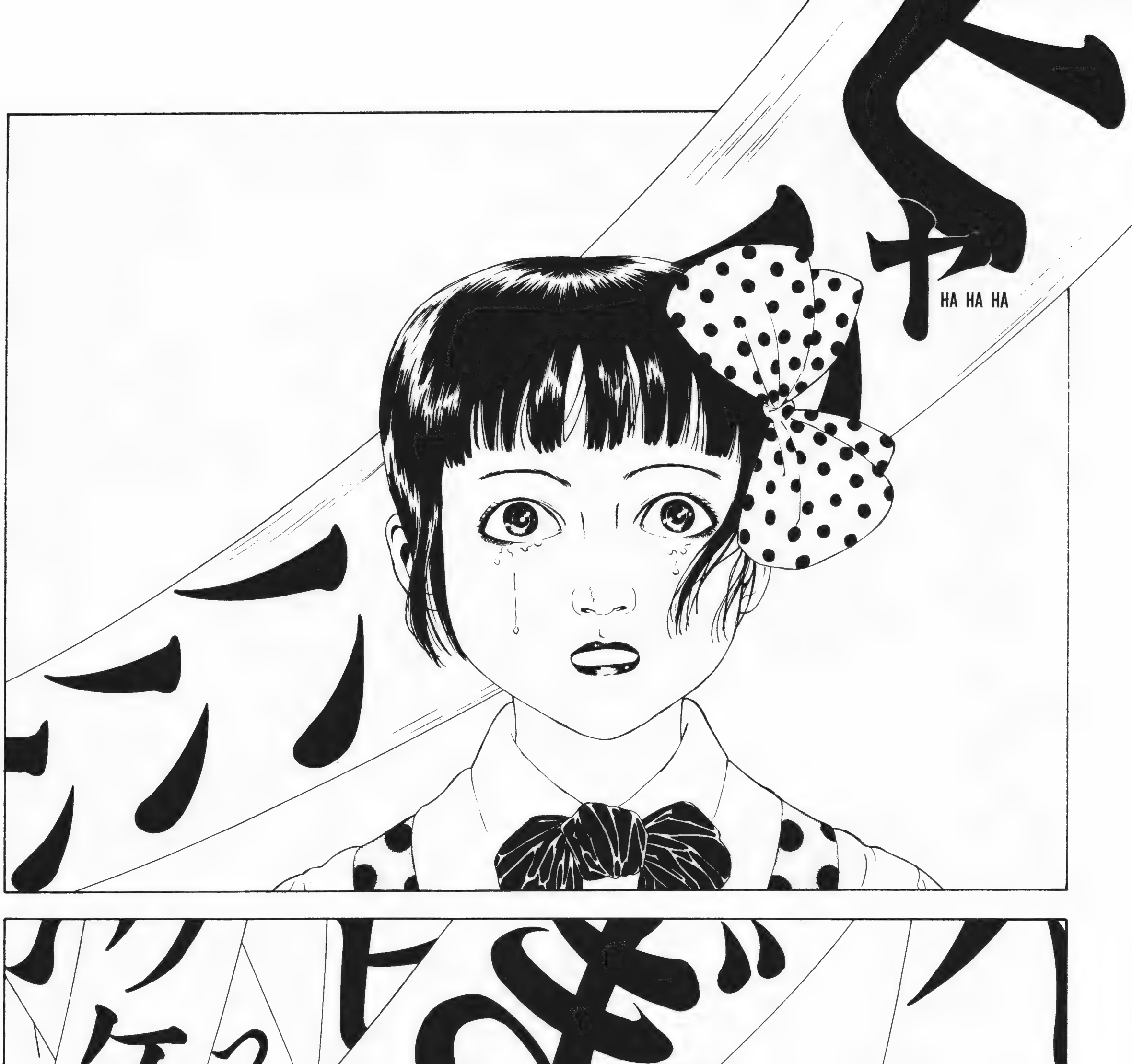

BWAAAH
BAM

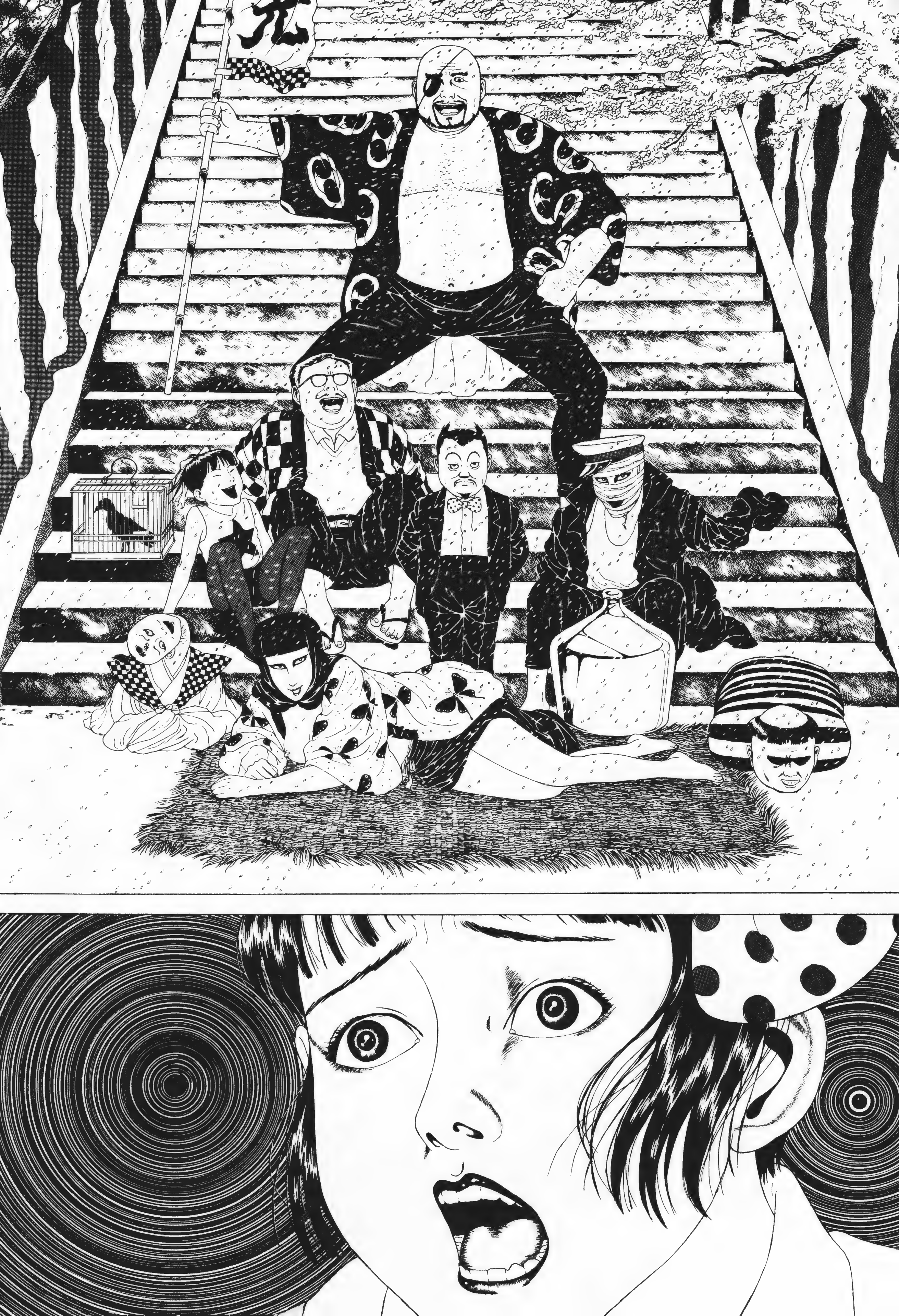

ACHOO!

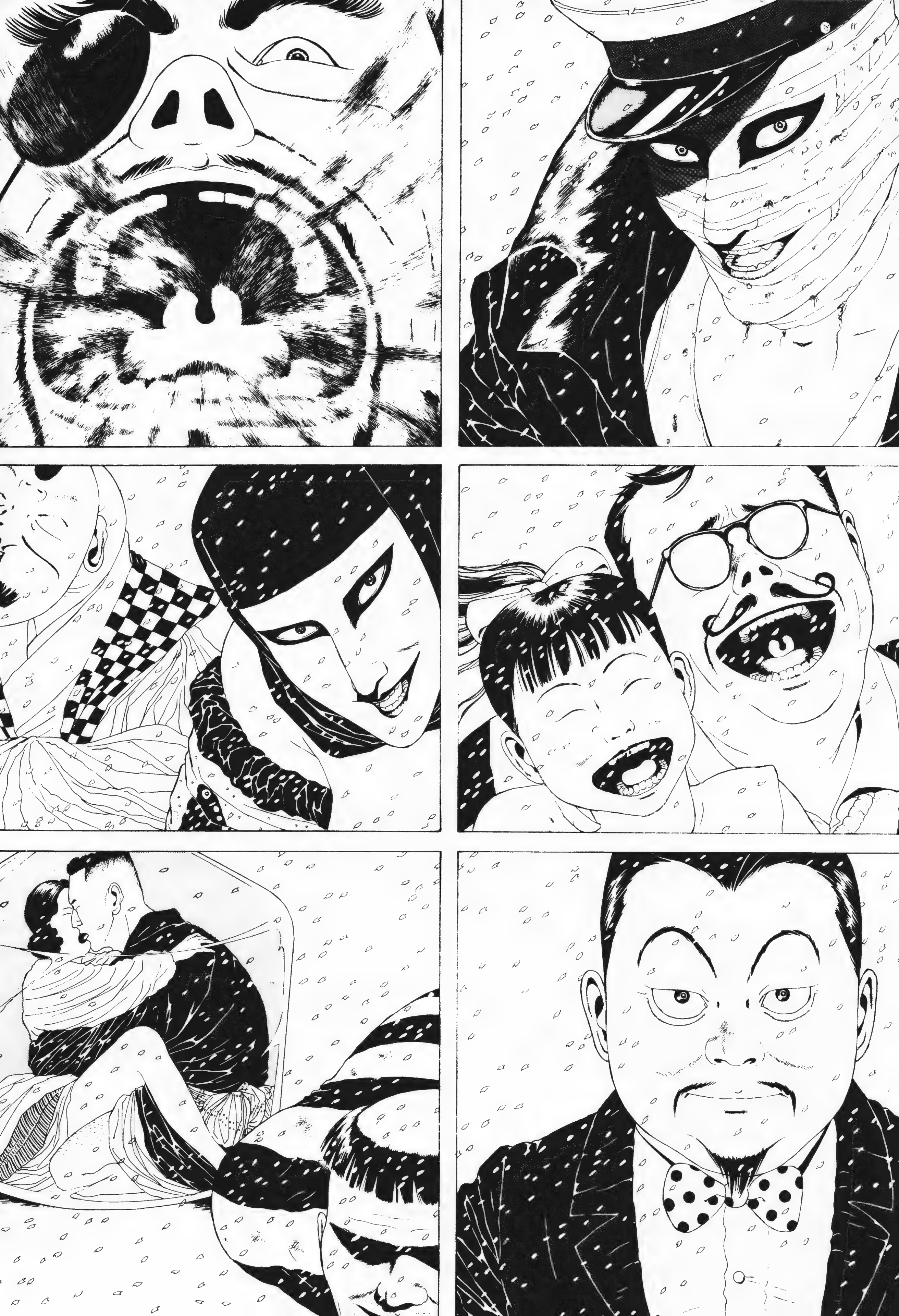


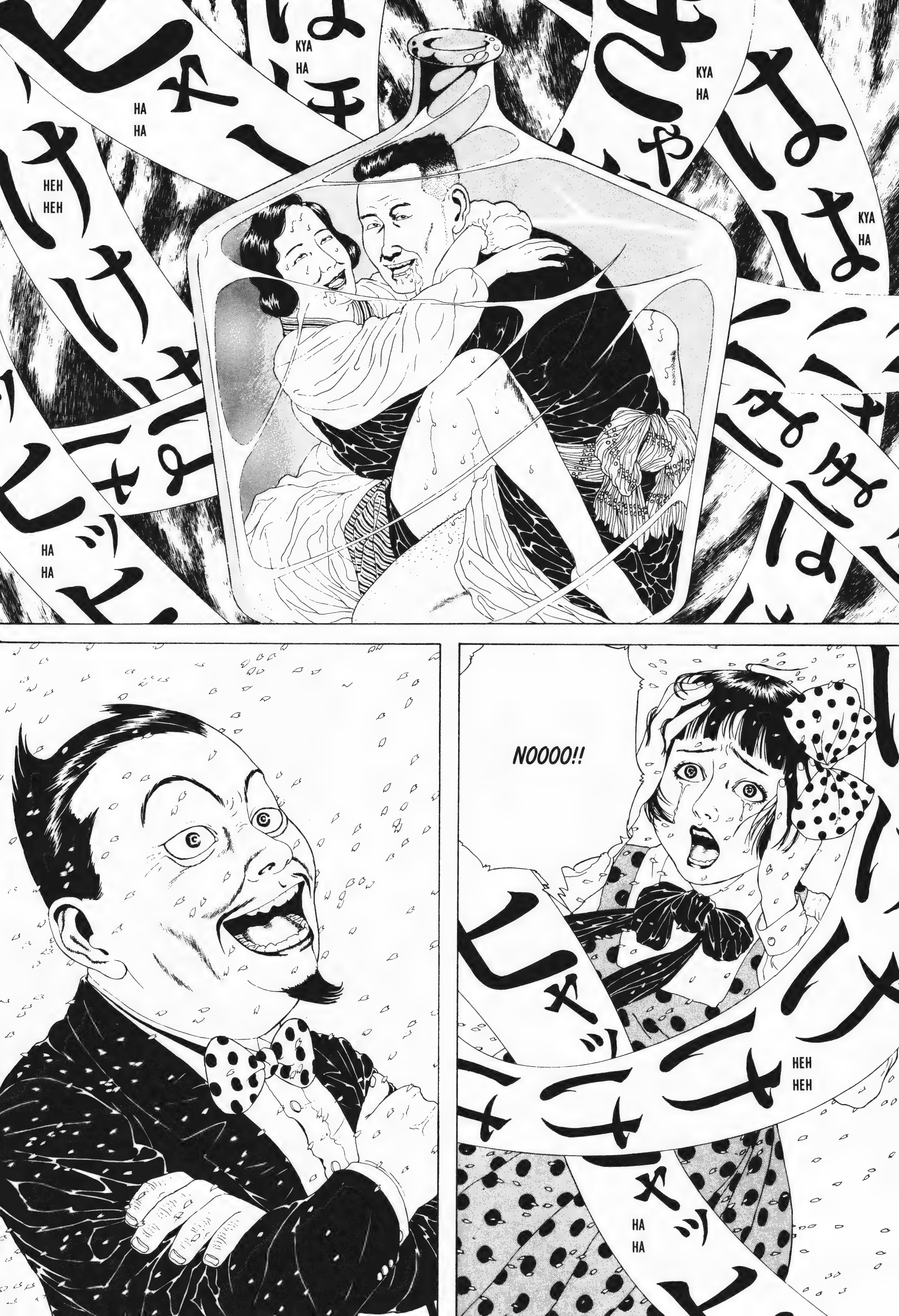

ACHOO!

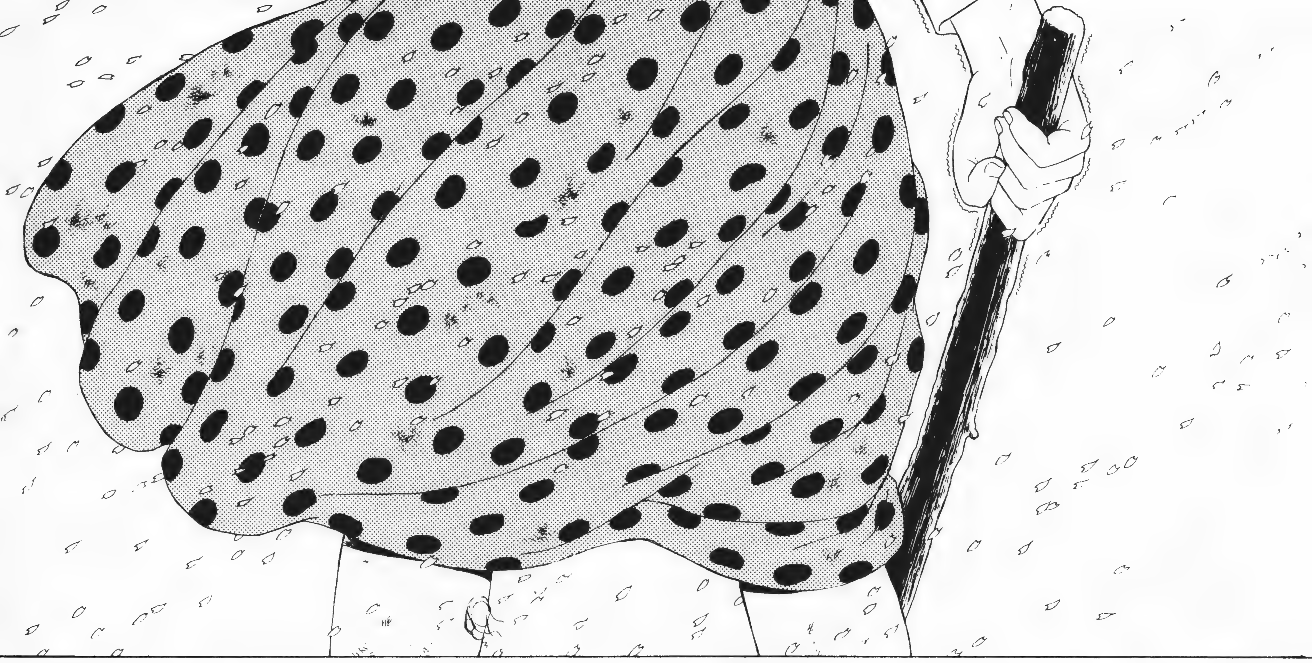

ACHOO!
WHERE ARE YOU?

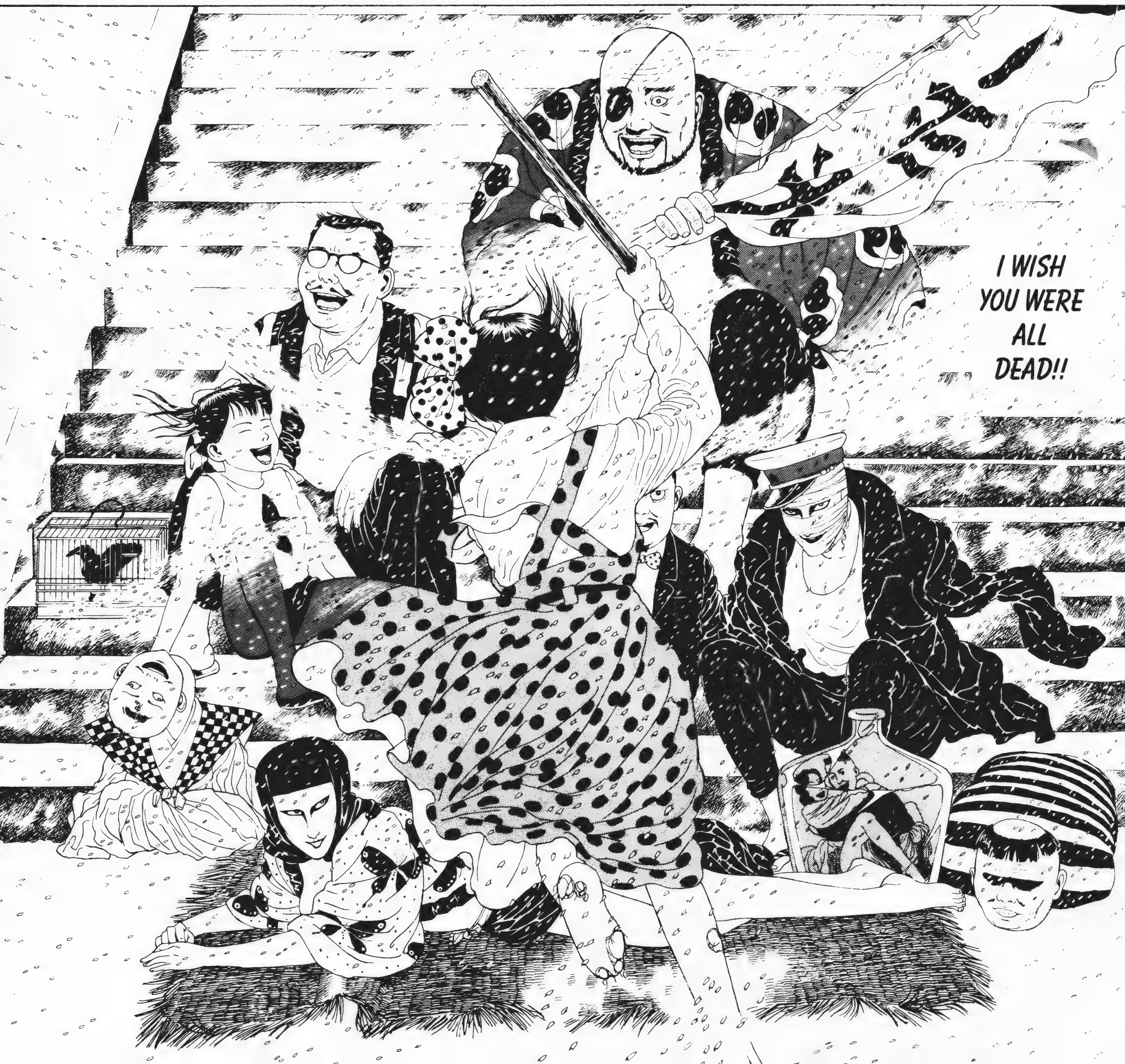

ヒャ
HA HA HA
GA HA HA
WA HA
KYA HA HA
HEH HEH HEH
HA HA
HEE HEE
HO HO

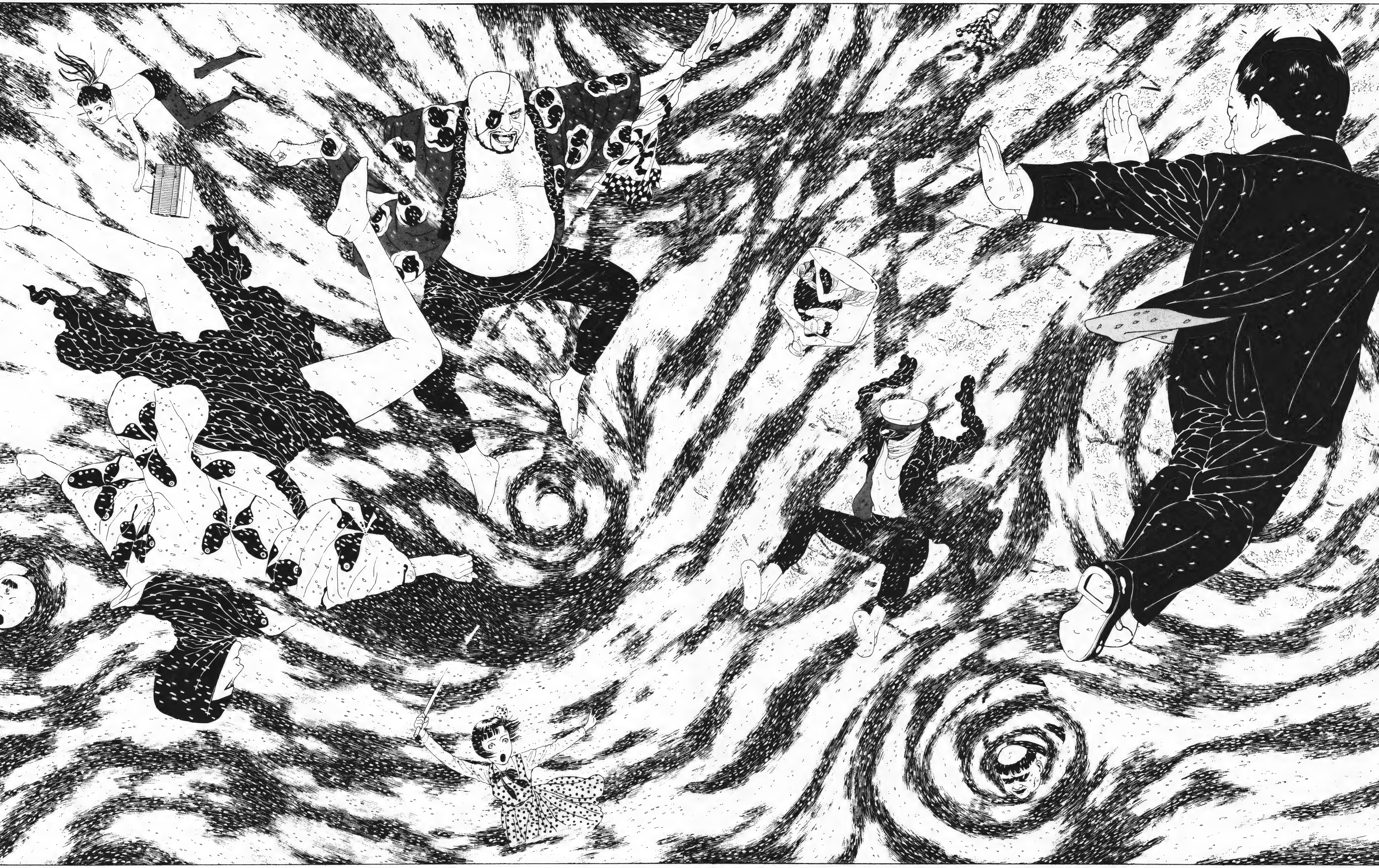


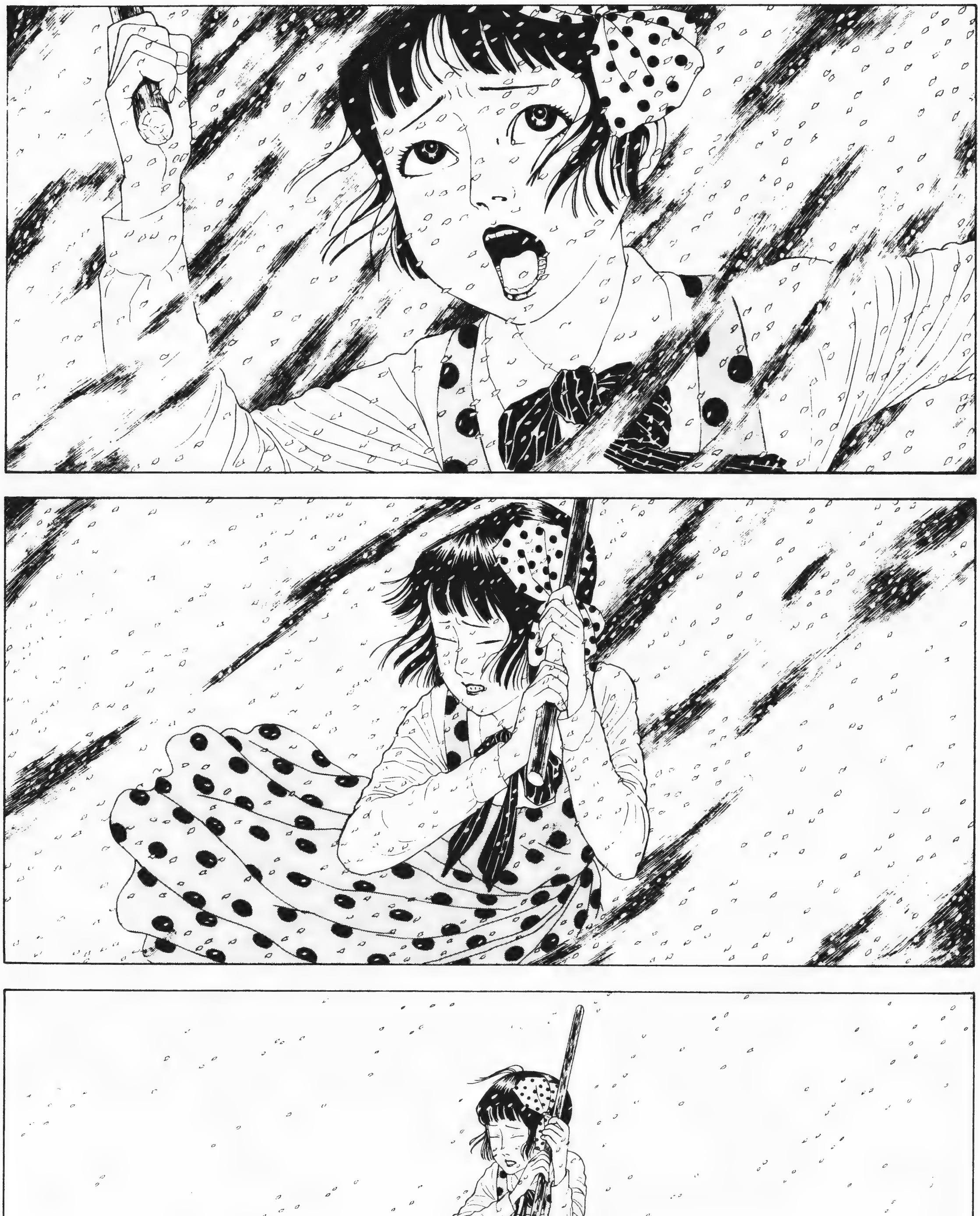


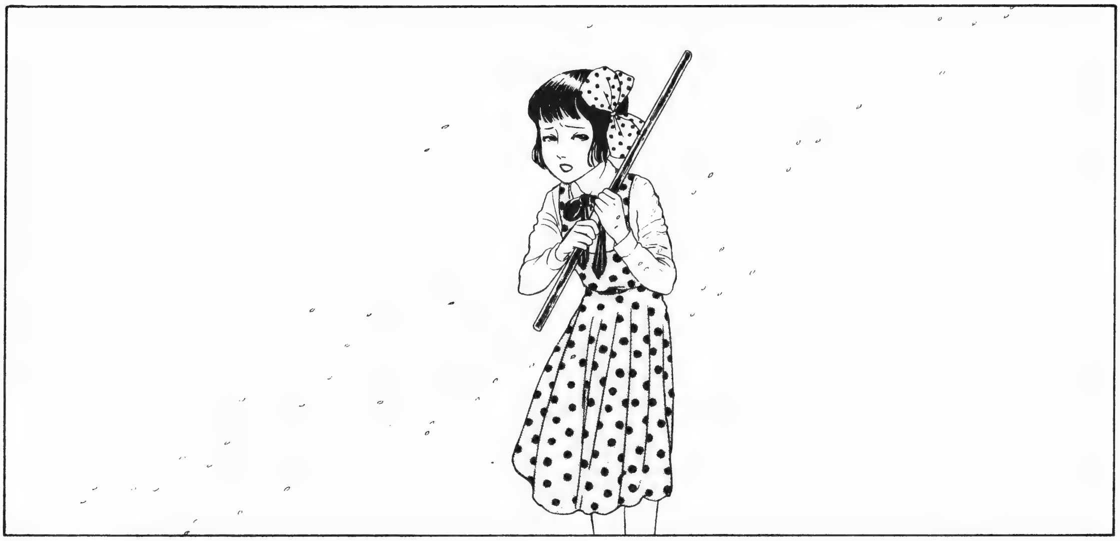

KYA HA
KYA HA
KYA HA
HA HA
HEH HEH
HA HA
NOOOO!!
HEH HEH
HA HA

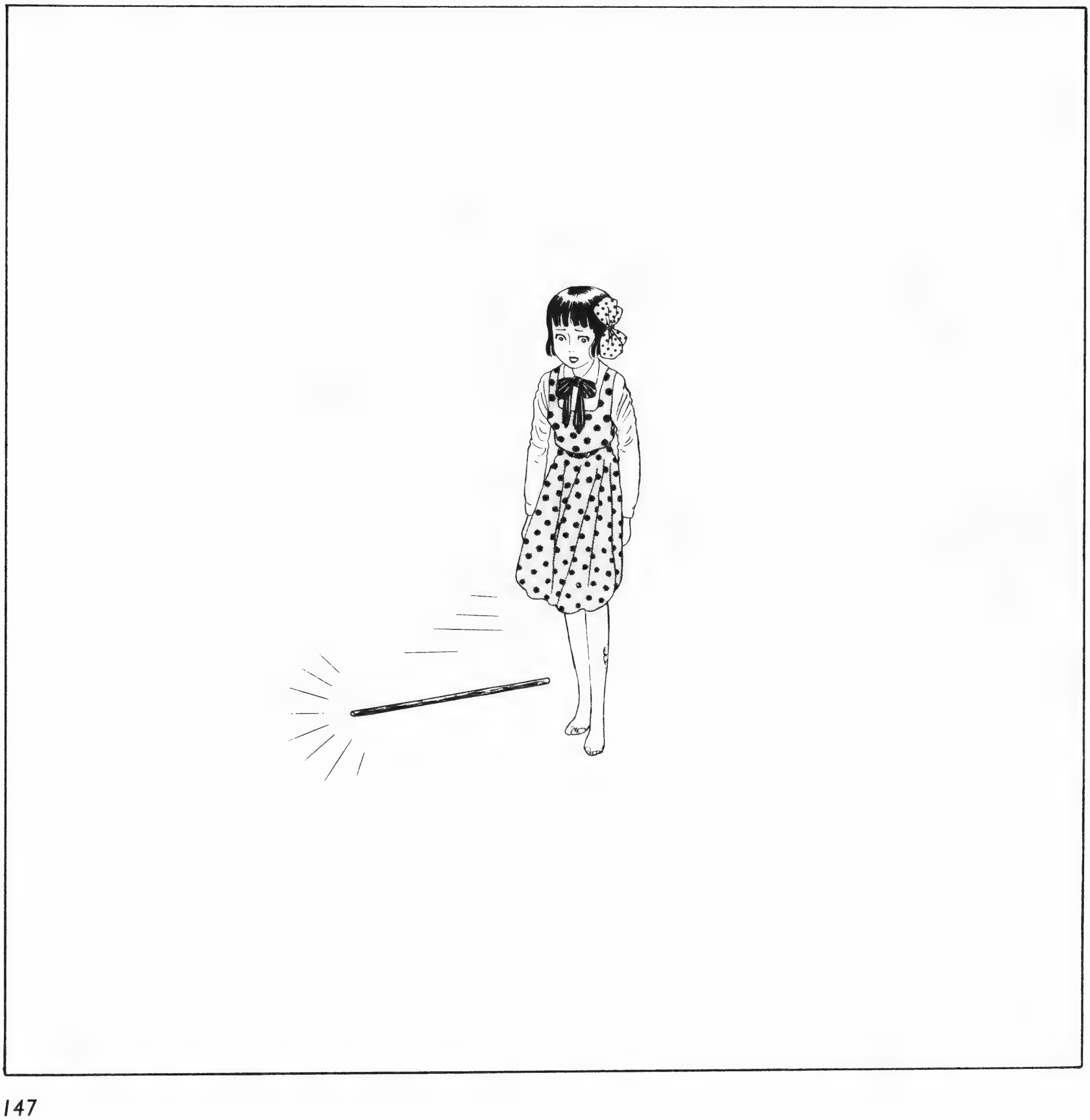


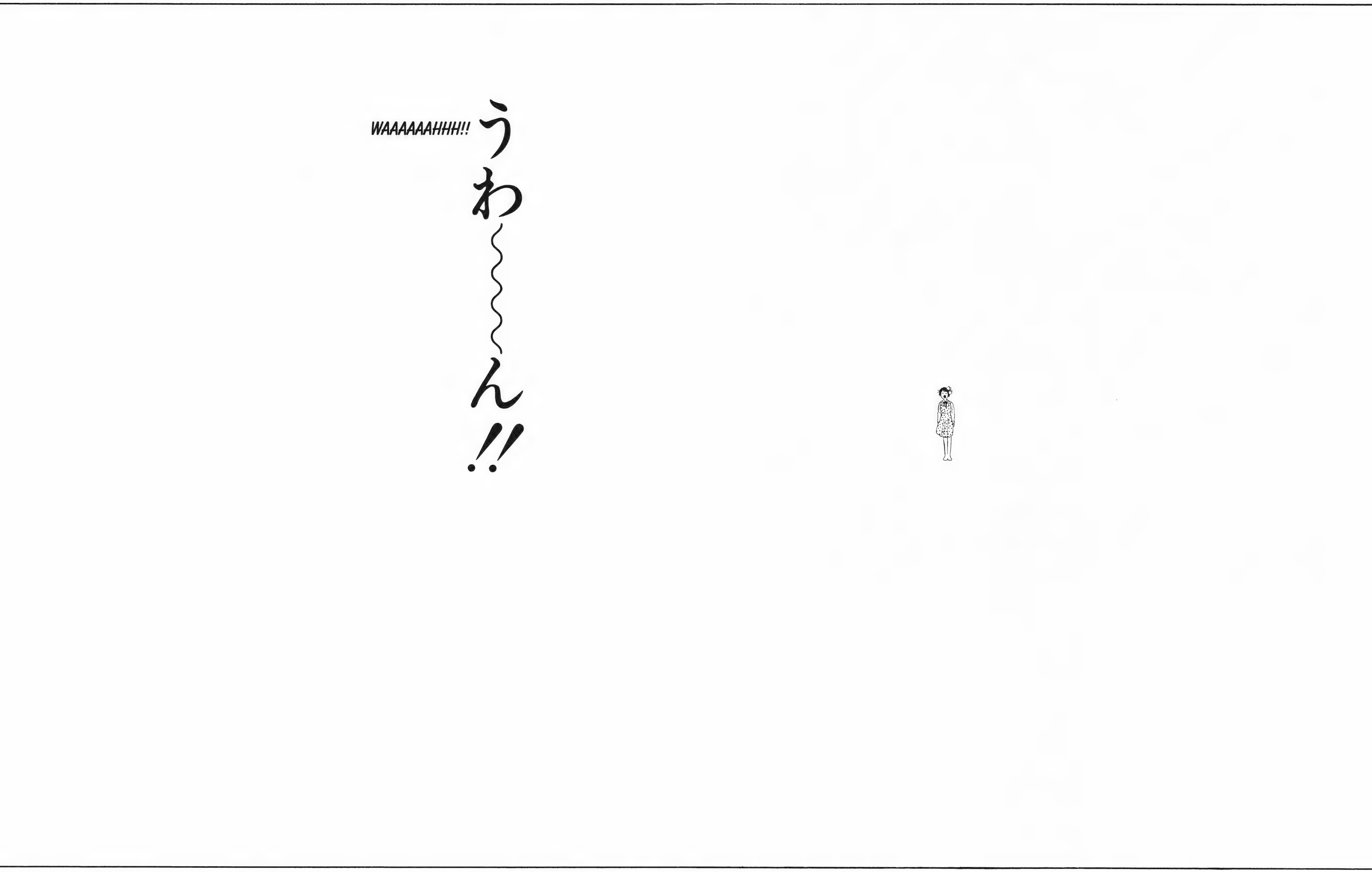

I WISH YOU WERE ALL DEAD!!










うわ〜〜〜〜ん!!
WAAAAAAAHHH!!

NOTE

To preserve Suehiro Maruo's original design, *Mr. Arashi's Amazing Freak Show* has been published in the same page order as the Japanese edition.

Japanese is read from right to left—the opposite direction of English—so you'll find the beginning of this book at the back, where English-language books end.

MR. ARASHI'S
AMAZING FREAK SHOW

SUEHIRO MARUO

TRANSLATED FROM THE JAPANESE BY
YOKO UMEZAWA AND LAURA LINDGREN

BLAST BOOKS
NEW YORK

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Suehiro Maruo's astonishing and powerful illustrations create a masterpiece of surrealism in his retelling of this classic Japanese tale of a little lost orphan ensnared in a traveling freak show. Suehiro Maruo lives in Tokyo, and MR. ARASHI'S AMAZING FREAK SHOW is the first of his works to be translated into English.

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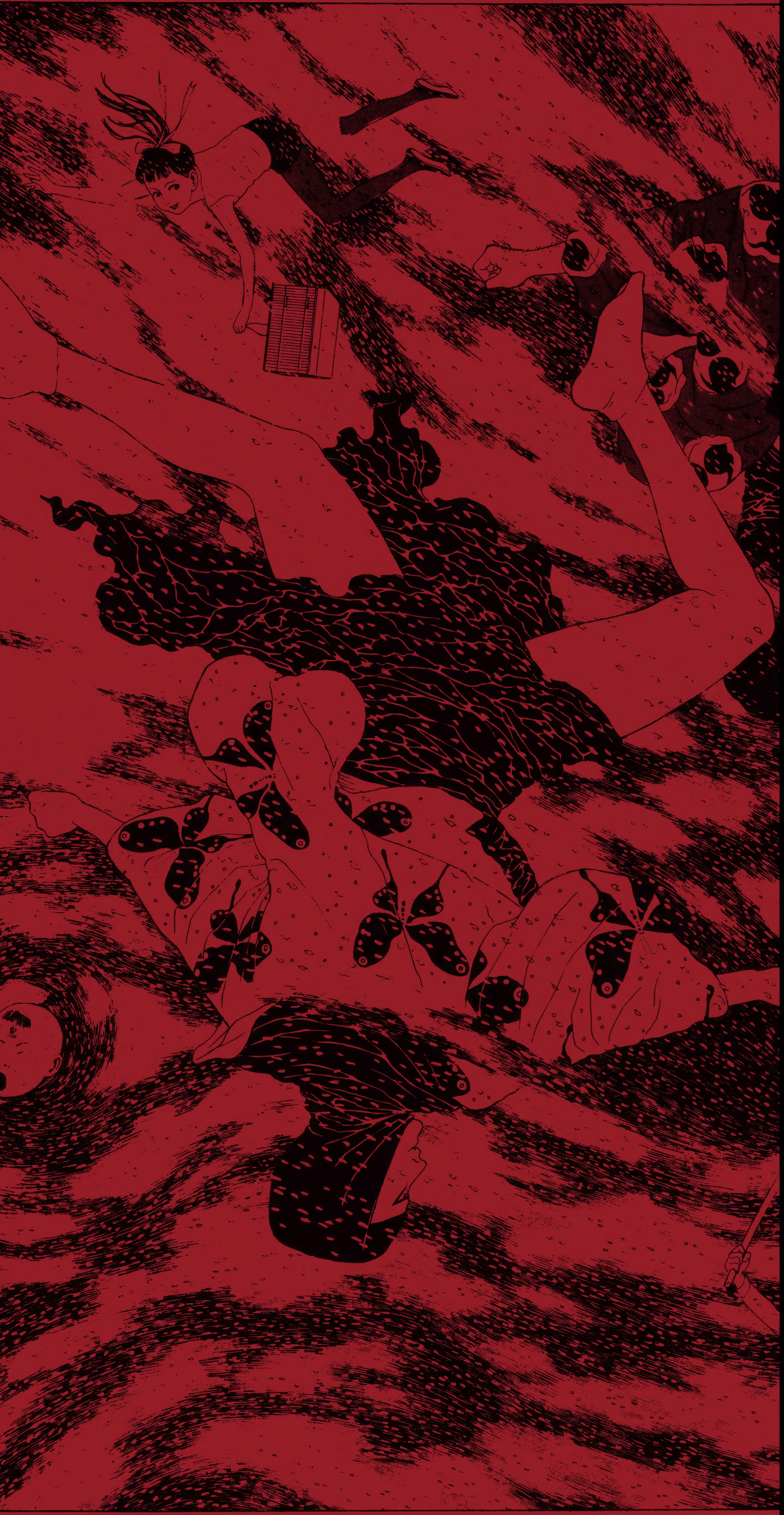

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